

62-5610-1040-85-77  
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION  
JUN 8 1936

See index card

TELETYPE

RECORDED COPY

F B I LOS ANGELES JUN 5, 1936. 11:30 AM AB

DIRECTOR

FROM. BUREAU JUST RECEIVED ADVISE THAT ADOLESCENT REPRESENTATIVE,  
ANDREUS TEMPLE, HAS RECEIVED THROUGH MAILE A DEMAND FOR \$10,000.  
TO BE DELIVERED IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, ACCOMPANIED BY GREAT IF NOT  
DONE, OTHERWISE PROSECUTION OF HER WILL BE INSTITUTED. AM MAKING INQUIRY  
TO DETERMINE IF LETTER IS ONE COMING WITHIN INVESTIGATIVE JURISDICTION  
THIS BUREAU. IF SO, WILL REPORT, BUT IF A CASE AS STATED, WILL  
REFER TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES. WILL ADVISE IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT  
FURTHER DETAILS.

HANSEN

RECORDED

INDEXED

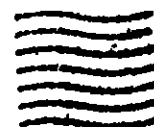
JUN 8 1936

7-1849-1
JUN 4 1936
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FILE

UNLESS YOU  
YOU WILL BE IN GREAT DANGER  
YOU WILL BE RUINED WHEN  
YOUR STORE AND HOME MAY  
BE BOMBED IF YOU WANT  
THE MONEY. BETTER GIVE  
AWAY A TRIFLE SUM OF MONEY  
TO SAVE YOUR STORE AND  
FAMILY I WOULD BOMB  
YOUR STORE AND HOME KILL  
ING PEOPLE AND YOUR FAMILY  
IF YOU WONT OBEY MY DEMAND  
DONT TELL POLICE OR  
IT WILL BE WORSE I HAVE  
AN AIDE WHO WILL DO THE  
JOB IF I AM EVER CAUGHT  
I GIVE YOU 3 DAYS TO  
THINK IT OVER. YOU CAN  
PUT IN A AD IN TRIBUNE  
OR DEMOCRAT YOUR DECISION  
TO OBEY MY DEMAND.

SECRET - UNCLASSIFIED  
IN YOUR INTEREST  
DEMAND DECEIT

I WILL WRITE YOU  
WEDNESDAY REGARDING  
WHERE TO PUT MORE  
BETTER NOT LET  
POLICE KNOW  
ACT QUICKLY  
DESPERATE



Sam LOJER  
425 STATE ST  
CITY

TELETYPE

UNRECORDED COPY

LOS ANGELES

JUNE 3 - 1936

2-36 PM

RE

DIRECTOR

FROM. RE EARLING TELETYPE PERTAINING TO THREAT RECEIVED BY ANNIE TRIPLE

WATKINS, ANNIE'S TRIPLE, HERE. SHE RECEIVED TODAY AIR-MAIL LETTER POST-

MARKED SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA TEN AM JUNE SECOND ADDRESS TO HER PERSONALLY

AT NUMBER ELEVEN HENDRIX GLENDALE BOULEVARD, 108 AM BUREAU AND ENCLOSED IN THE

ENVELOPE WAS A POSTCARD DATED JUNE SECOND READING AS FOLLOWS QUOTE AFTER.

WE ARE IN NEED OF THE HUNDRED DOLLARS. URGENT THIS REQUEST IF YOU CARE TO.

AND WE WILL BLAME YOUR CAREER AND YOURSELF IN AFTER GAMER & DOES - ALSO WE

THOUGHT IT SELF. WE HAVE QUOTE A NEW FACTOR OF A FRANK & YOURSELF IN THE

WIFE. P. A. SENT BY JAMES POST ADDRESS JACK HENRY FEDERAL BUREAU SAN DIEGO

CAL P. S. BY RETURN MAIL OR ELSE REMOVE. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THREAT

PERTAINS TO CREDIT AND REPUTATION OF WATKINS AND THE ANNIE TRIPLE.

IN DELIVERING THE LETTER TO FEDERAL INSPECTOR HERE.

SIXTY

IN THE NAME OF THE P. S. OFFICE

RECORDED

9/18/79-2

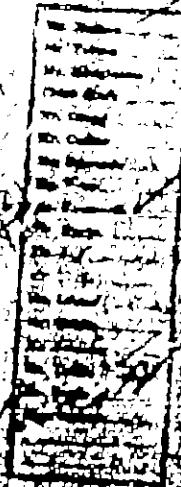
JUN 15 1936

ST. PAUL DAILY NEWS

6-9-38



Confounding according to Los Angeles police, leading to an attempt to arrest him from the scene through the presence of a photograph. VALENTINE, the ALIEN, however, cannot be located, says the police, as he has a faded identification photograph.



26-15/28

ST. PAUL DAILY NEWS  
 DIRECTOR  
 MR. ROY  
 MR. HARRIS  
 MR. LEE  
 AT ST. PAUL  
 INVESTIGATE  
 RE AD IN  
 AND RE AD  
 TRAFFIC  
 MR. J.  
 CAL. S.  
 PERTAINS  
 AS DELIVER  
 ON THE WAY

9-18-44-14

*[Handwritten signature]*

*Wash*

*Wash*

*Wash*

*Wash*

*Wash*

*Wash*

*Wash*

*Wash*

*Wash*

*Wash*

1849-A



## Temple Aid Was Given Ex-Convict

There had been one of those  
cases where someone had  
been taken in by a man  
and woman.

That is how Mrs. Maude Hill  
found out about the Temple.  
She explained her feelings  
concerning Valentine Philip Mc  
Auliffe, a man who had been  
living in prison, \$10,000 from  
Arthur Temple McPherson.

"Furthermore, I have never  
received any mail or news  
concerning any kind from the  
man," Mrs. Hill said.

"We came to the Temple on  
May 12, obviously in need  
of spiritual and material  
aid. I prayed with him at the  
altar and tried to get him  
away from the devil.

"After we started looking  
for him. He stayed there a  
few days and then disappeared. I never heard of him  
again. I have heard of him  
before, but I have heard  
about the man, but I have never  
seen him."

*Handwritten notes and a box containing illegible text.*



# G-men hunt aide in Aimee extortion plot

## Ex-convict gives up in San Diego

Federal agents today were conducting a far-reaching search for an asserted accomplice of Valentine McLaughlin, notorious, lame little former Canadian Royal Air Force mechanic and ex-convict, who last night admitted sending a \$10,000 extortion note to the apishly Aimee Temple McPherson, Angelus Temple publisher.

The note, one of five he allegedly mailed the Four Square Gospel leader, demanded the money on pain of "showing her career" by publishing asserted photographs of Mrs. McPherson and a friend in the South.

Meanwhile, McLaughlin was named in a complaint, charging misuse of the mails, which was signed today by Federal Commissioner George R. Ford of San Diego. He also was named in a burglary complaint, resulting from the asserted extortion of a burglary in San Diego eight months ago.

McLaughlin, believed into the San Diego police station today, was not named and gave "until the end of the year," Mrs. McPherson, reported to authorities here, the names of the only two of five notes he said he had sent her.

"I've just told to you," Aimee McPherson drove for to "read," McLaughlin was quoted by San Diego authorities as saying. "I'm tired of waiting for her to answer my letters or I want to give myself up."

Later today, questioning by the federal justice, he admitted the 20 complaint in the past at Liberty Avenue, distributed on a Los Angeles business plan.

He declared he saw persons who "borrowed" two cars in Los Angeles and drove to San Diego, leaving the letters of the year.

Four of them, he said, were mailed to other persons, with no proof envelopes addressed to Mrs. McPherson. The notes, he said, went to Mrs. Dorothy Harper, 1114 South Main Street, and two to Mrs. Ernest Harris, wife of San Angeles.

McLaughlin had asked for an exemption in the plot, and would "go" Mrs. McPherson, the first to receive the letter, according to the San Diego police.

The former middle and end of the plot was to get funds to help Mrs. Harper, who has studied at U. S. L. A. McLaughlin's mother, Mrs. Charles Harper, 2144 East Street, in an Angeles Temple note number and number, gave him five weeks of the plot, McLaughlin, he said.

The note sent Mrs. McPherson was written on a postcard and placed in a letter to ring a mail stamp and addressed "Aimee Temple McPherson, 1114 South Main Street, Los Angeles, California." It was marked "urgent" and read:

"We are in need of \$10,000. Please send this money to me soon, and we will show you our face and also the temple itself. We have quite a few pictures of it and would like to see them."

"P. R. Stand it good post. Jack Don Mar, General Delivery San Diego, Calif."

"P. R. By return mail - please."

McLaughlin told San Diego police and his associates had in the possession of other letters addressed to Mrs. McPherson, and a letter taken in recent years ago.





# EXTORTION PLOT INVOLVES ARABEE

Crippled Ex-Convict in Custody for Threat To Publish Photo

San Diego, California, June 4 (AP)—A plot to extort \$25,000 from a San Diego newspaper was uncovered today by police.

During the case of Volney Davis, 46, and Charles Brown, a former Pennsylvania convict who was quoted by the San Diego Union as saying he had the photo of a woman in the hands of the newspaper.

Mr. Brown, known by the name "Doc" in the past, was taken to the police station at Los Angeles and "brought back" the photo to a police station in San Diego.

The story was reported by the San Diego Union and the San Diego News.

Investigation by the San Diego police department has revealed that the photo was taken by a man named "Doc" Brown, who was known to the police as a "bookie" and a "pimp."

Mr. Brown, who was known to the police as a "bookie" and a "pimp," was taken to the police station at Los Angeles and "brought back" the photo to a police station in San Diego.

The story was reported by the San Diego Union and the San Diego News.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Starnes
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Starnes
- Mr. Tamm

The Herald and Times  
June 5, 1936  
Forwarded by New York Office

9-1849-A

14

## PRINCIPALS IN EXTORTION CASE

Evangelists  
Who Received  
Threats

**\$10,000 Cash Demanded From  
Aimee McPherson**

## Man Who Confessed Mailing Notes



VALENTINE P. McALINDY  
In Jail at San Diego After Confessing Extortion Plot  
— Lured Two Los Angeles Girls From and to

# CANTONESE ARMY INVADES NANKING

SHANGHAI June 6 (Three-Power today said their air force days off a huge Canton army today in view of work conflict of other officials with the Japanese National Government. Marching and war took to the air against an air strike on which the Chinese officials showed was prepared to spot the move to disarm her China.

A form of 100 000 regularly was  
sent to the government and  
ordered to be preserved for the

ALICE SAMPLE WIFE OF JOHN TARANT OF FLINT  
Evangelical Reformed Establm 1/10 Demanding \$10,000

## THREATS TO PASTOR LAND MAN IN JAIL

MAITIN also orally informed her mother that in two weeks and one week was taken by Mrs. Margus into her boarding house.

Mrs. M. Freeman said she had been told by a woman who had been with her at the time of the shooting that she was the mother of the child.



[illegible]

'I Didn't Pay Much Attention'



INFORMED THAT VALENTINE MAULIFFE had apparently had party he had sent invitation cards to Rev. Alvin Francis McPherson, co-leader of the temple, but said she had paid much attention to them because she receives trash letters every day. She is accused above of reading the letters. —AP Wire Photo

## Threat to Blast Angelus Temple Received in Mail

A NOTORIOUS ex-convict was held in San Diego last night after he was reported to have confessed sending letters through the mails to Alvin Francis McPherson, pastor of Angelus Temple, threatening to circulate photographs of the evangelist and another person in the nude.

The alleged extortionist, who demanded that \$10,000 be sent to parcel post in San Diego, is Valentine McAuliffe, who federal officials say once served a prison term for murder in Pennsylvania.

The extortion plot was exposed after McAuliffe walked into a San Diego police station on a pair of crutches.

"I tried to shake Alvin McPherson down for ten grand," McAuliffe was quoted as telling a Los Angeles Times reporter. "I'm tired waiting for him to answer my letters so I want to give myself up."

At the Angelus Temple power-up last night Mrs. J. McPherson displayed a copy of a note received by parcel from San Diego.

"Alvin — I'm in need of \$10,000. Ignore this request if you care to and we will meet your money and when the temple don't we have quite a few photos of a loved one yourself in the nude."

The note carried a postscript threatening Mrs. McPherson to send the money by parcel post to "Jack the ... General Delivery, San Diego."

"I receive every letter every day," the evangelist said. "When this one came across to me by my secretary, I didn't pay much attention to it. But when I saw it was from San Diego, I was scared."

It might have been the same gang I had heard of that had up some pictures of people in the nude in various parts of the country.

Frank, executive of the San Diego church, said the note was a threat to publish the pictures if the money was not sent. They had no other way of knowing he was hiding in San Diego, he said, as he was in the hospital.

McAuliffe made a confession that he had been in the hospital for some time and that he was now in San Diego. He said he was now in San Diego and was now in San Diego.

"There were pictures of me and my son and I was in the hospital for some time and I was now in San Diego."

McAuliffe, who had been in the hospital for some time, said he was now in San Diego and was now in San Diego. He said he was now in San Diego and was now in San Diego.



# Aimee Snubs Photo Plotter; He Gives Up

Los Angeles, June 1.—Not to Aimee Sample McPherson, Four Square Gospel evangelist of Angiers Temple: "Aimee, we are in need of \$10,000. Ignore this request if you care to and we will blast your career and also the Temple. We have quite a few photographs of a friend and yourself in the hands."

## Victim of Blackmail Plot

Aimee Sample McPherson was target of \$10,000 blackmail plot, said yesterday. Sample said she was a target to expose pictures of Aimee and a friend in the photograph.



Yolande Fulton, Seattle, 22-year-old airplane mechanic, said five of these copies to the publicist, advertising. Then, being of working for a reply, he called her the (Aimee) Aimee's letter to her (Fulton) and gave them to sample.

### Aimee Doesn't Know Plot

Fulton says an immediate investigation of the story being covered story in which Fulton from the Los Angeles office of the Department of Justice, says in her report. "I have seen a picture of Aimee and a friend in the photograph. I have seen a picture of Aimee and a friend in the photograph. I have seen a picture of Aimee and a friend in the photograph."

Fulton says she has seen a picture of Aimee and a friend in the photograph. I have seen a picture of Aimee and a friend in the photograph. I have seen a picture of Aimee and a friend in the photograph.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

9-1849-A

RECEIVED  
(forwarded to the Los Angeles office)

JUN 4 1938

## Aimee Snubs Plotter, He Tells the Cops

(Continued from page 1)

wanted for questioning in a burglary here, and he was booked on a suspect felony charge.

Seen under the name of Jack M. Ail Ga, New York, he said he was waiting for a reply to the letters when he decided to give himself up. Partially disabled, he was an cripples when he appeared at the prosecutor's office. Four of the letters, McAnally told officers, were sent to Marie Harris, and to Mrs. McPherson, and that among politicians, the fifth was sent directly to the symphony.

C. D. Love, chief investigator here, was indicted at the last, and charged as authoring everything from United States Attorney Hall. He will take it to the judge to be given to by Assistant Prosecuting General.

Henry, Kentucky.

In a conversation with Detective Love, said he was satisfied that McAnally has built in prison in Pennsylvania for murder, in the name for great money, and in Canada for himself. He said Love was told that McAnally signed the letters Jack Oak Hill.

Each was conducted with the...  
...and in...  
...on the...  
...the...  
...the...

**Federal Charge Is Entered  
Against Note Writer**

[illegible]

The magazine was described "not as a journal, Germany, as picture of the world that I could see, it perfectly fitting to have published, the above."

Magazine was considered by having much more as a literary character, he expected having a few, very good and culture, knowing people there.

- Mr. Phillips  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Thompson  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Foxworth  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Joseph  
Mr. Keen  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

A T T E N T I O N  
 THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE

JUN 5 1936

Crippled Ex-Convict In  
Custody for Threat  
To Publish Photo

CRIME IN NEW YORK CITY  
MURDER, IT WAS CALLED  
IN A BROAD PAPERBACK BOOK  
THE NEW YORKER OF DECEMBER 11, 1961  
WAS CALLED A NEW YORKER  
AND THE NEW YORKER OF DECEMBER 11, 1961  
WAS CALLED A NEW YORKER

The same was repeated over  
 and over again for many years.

[illegible][illegible]

Mr. Andrews	...
Mr. Tolson	...
Mr. Thompson	...
Chief Clerk	...
Mr. Clegg	...
Mr. Coffey	...
Mr. Edwards	...
Mr. Egan	...
Mr. Foxworth	...
Mr. Glavin	...
Mr. Ladd	...
Mr. Nichols	...
Mr. Rosen	...
Mr. Tracy	...
Mr. Carson	...
Mr. Hendon	...
Mr. Quinn	...
Mr. Nease	...
Mr. Tamm	...
Mr. Egan	...
Miss Gandy	...

The Hartford Times  
June 4, 1936  
Forwarded by New York Office



# AIMEE EXTORT SUSPECT HELD

LOS ANGELES, June 4 (By International News Service). — Bodyguards today surrounded Alphonse George McPherson as one man was jailed after confessing sending the father extorted a series of extortion notes and his accomplice was caught here and in Mexico.

The man under arrest said he became "Jimmy" and walked into the District Attorney's office in San Diego, Cal., and told officials officers he had paid Mrs. McPherson \$200,000 ransom, demanding \$10,000.

He gave his name as Valentín Ponce Macías, 40, and said he had served prison terms in Pennsylvania and Canada.

At the same time several reporters have reported they had been asked by the newspaper to find out if the father extorted money from McPherson, a prominent family member, through a "woman" of Mrs. McPherson and if her first husband, George Macías, was.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Boardman	✓
Chief Clerk	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Edwards	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Foxworth	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Joseph	✓
Mr. Keith	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*Handwritten:* 1700 K  
EAT

NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL  
Printed by the New York

JUN 4 1938

9-

*Handwritten:* 1700 K

**Picture Plot**  
**McPherson Suspect**  
**Face U. S. Charge**  
SAR HENRI, Cal., Jan. 4 (AP).—A Federal grand jury here today indicted William Thomas McPherson, 41, of Great Britain, for an attempt to extort \$100,000 from American officials. McPherson was charged with conspiring and attempting to extort money from the American government by threatening to publish information concerning the activities of a United States spy in the South. He was charged with conspiring with a woman, who was charged with attempting to extort money from the American government by threatening to publish information concerning the activities of a United States spy in the South. He was charged with conspiring with a woman, who was charged with attempting to extort money from the American government by threatening to publish information concerning the activities of a United States spy in the South.

McPherson Suspect  
Facing U. S. Charge

**SAN DIEGO, Cal., June 10 (AP)**—Federal authorities are looking for a man they believe is involved in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. The man, who is believed to be in the San Diego area, is being sought by the FBI and the San Diego Police Department. The man is described as being in his late 20s or early 30s, with dark hair and a mustache. He is wearing a dark jacket and light-colored pants. He is believed to have been seen in the area of the assassination on June 5, 1968.

North  
east

A photograph of a document page, likely a ledger or a list of entries. The page contains a list of names and dates, written in a cursive or handwritten style. The text is somewhat blurry and the page is tilted. The list appears to be organized in columns, with names on the left and dates on the right. Some of the visible names include "John", "Mary", "James", "Elizabeth", "Thomas", "Sarah", "Michael", "David", "William", "Robert", "Richard", "Henry", "George", "Edward", "Charles", "Francis", "John", "Mary", "James", "Elizabeth", "Thomas", "Sarah", "Michael", "David", "William", "Robert", "Richard", "Henry", "George", "Edward", "Charles", "Francis". The dates are written in a similar style, often followed by "18" or "19".

THE YORK JOURNAL

forwarded to me by Mr. [redacted]

JUN 5 1936



POSTAL

DELETED COPY

NO 60/52 GOVT COLLECT

JUN 4 1936

8 LOS ANGELES CALIF 600P JUNE 3 1936

DIRECTOR FED BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

US DEPT OF JUSTICE WASH DC

RETELS CONCERNING RECEIPT EXTORTION LETTERS BY ADONIS GEMPLE ROYERSON ANGELES  
TELEPHONE HAVE RECEIVED ADVISE THAT INDIVIDUAL NAMED VALANTINE CAULIFF AGED  
FORTY TWO YEARS SUBMITTED TO STATE DISTRICT ATTORNEY SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA  
THIS AFTERNOON ADMITTING HE HAD TRANSMITTED TO MRS ROYERSON LETTERS IN QUESTION  
POSTAL INSPECTORS HAVE SECURED COMPLAINT AND WILL HANDLE CASE.

HANSON

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUN 10 1936

9-1849-3  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 8 1936

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**

**U. S. Department of Justice**

Los Angeles, California

July 15, 1936

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

Re: **VALENTINE MCANULTY**  
**Aimee Sample McPherson, Victim**  
**EXTORTION**

This is to confirm teletype from the Los Angeles office dated June 3, 1936, concerning the receipt by Aimee Sample McPherson of Angelus Temple in Los Angeles, of a letter transmitted through the United States Mails, demanding the sum of \$10,000.00, accompanied by the inferred threat that if the money was not paid, there would be made public photographs of her in the nude.

For the information of the Bureau, there is attached hereto a photostatic copy of the envelope in which this letter was mailed; also a photostatic copy of both sides of the postcard enclosure which contained the demand and threat.

As you were advised, no action was taken by this Bureau, inasmuch as it was not a case coming within our investigative jurisdiction.

The photostatic copies referred to above are being forwarded to the Bureau, thinking that it might desire to search the writing on these papers with the writing on extortion letters received in the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

JUN:AB

1 Enc.

*J. H. Ransom*  
J. H. RANSOM  
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED

JUN 24 1936

9-1849-11
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 20 1936 A.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

These and specimens retained in laboratory

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

6-10684

Laboratory Report

Case Valentine Keenlyff  
Alma Sample Kufner, Victim  
Extortion.

Number 6-10684-4

- Specimens 6-10684-4 A One photostatic copy of back of a postal card containing letter beginning "Alma, we are in love."
- B One photostatic copy of front of postal card containing the words "Address Jack Del Mar".
  - C One photostatic copy of front of envelope postmarked San Diego, Calif. 2 Jan 2, 1936 10 AM.

Examination requested by Los Angeles

Date received 6-23-36 (11:00 AM ft)

Examination requested Document

Result of examination

Examination by: Appel

6/25 Written by a person probably  
fifty years old at least. not  
an illiterate, not usual type of handwriting.  
"if you love to" written  
"in the middle"  
"bless your career"

RAI 6-23-36

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

**THREATS TO AIMÉE  
BRING INDICTMENTS**

San Antonio, June 11. — William E. McWhorter has been indicted by a federal grand jury on a charge of attempted extortion from Aimée Tamm. McWhorter, lover of Supreme Court Justice Tamm, was indicted by the grand jury on a charge of attempting to extort from Aimée Tamm the sum of \$10,000. It is alleged that McWhorter threatened to "shoot your throat out" unless the sum was paid. It is also alleged that McWhorter threatened to "shoot your throat out" unless the sum was paid. It is also alleged that McWhorter threatened to "shoot your throat out" unless the sum was paid.

*Mon*

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*Mon*

The Hartford Times  
June 11, 1936  
Forwarded by New York Office

9-1849-A

Mr. Adams \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Baker \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Bush \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clark \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Cook \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Davis \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Edwards \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ford \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gibson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hall \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Keith \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Wadsworth \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Webb \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Wheeler \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Wilson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Wood \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Wright \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Young \_\_\_\_\_

a-1849-A

N. Y. HERALD-TRIBUNE  
Forwarded by New York Office

JUN 11 1931

6-2-34

July 1, 1934.

R. ARLOFF

the

San Diego,

Special Agent in Charge  
San Antonio, Texas.

Re: Alvin Karpis, Victim;  
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted to you the laboratory report  
covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office  
in connection with the above entitled matter and received at  
the Bureau June 28, 1934.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

RECEIVED

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION MAILED JUL 1 1934 U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
--

Appel  
the Laboratory  
Identification

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

10000

July 1, 1936.

Re: Valentine Kesseloff,  
Alma Temple Chapman, Victim;  
Extortion.

Source: S-1012-4

- Specimens A. One photostatic copy of back of a postal card containing answer beginning "Alma, we are in...".  
B. One photostatic copy of front of postal card containing the words "Address Joe. Del Mar...".  
C. One photostatic copy of front of envelope postmarked "San Diego, California, 2, June 2, 1936, 10 A. M.".

Examination requested by Los Angeles Bureau Office.

Date received June 23, 1936.

Examination requested Forensic.

Result of examination

Examination by Appel

The handwriting on this letter will be searched through the laboratory's anonymous letter file and you will be advised in the event that an identification is effected.

1-Bureau  
1-Los Angeles  
1-Laboratory

RECORDED

9-1849-5

JUL 6 1936

JUL 2 1936



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

June 30, 1936.

CAA:DMB  
9-1849

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. EDWARDS.

Re: Valentine McAniff,  
Aimee Sample McPherson, Victim;  
Extortion.

In the above-entitled case the examiner has noted certain factors tending to show conditions of investigative value which are not listed in the Laboratory report No. 10684. The writer of the extortion letter, specimens 9-1849-A, B, and C, was probably at least fifty years old and not the usual poorly educated extortionist.

Respectfully,

E. P. Coffey  
E. P. Coffey.

JUL 8 1936

9-1849-6	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUL 8 1936 P.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
SEARCHED	FILE

1936

POSTAL

RECORDED COPY

WFO 26/26 GOVT DL COLLECT

JAN 8 1937

FM LOS ANGELES CALIF 257 JAN 8 1937

DIRECTOR FBI

US DEPT OF JUSTICE VIA REG

UNKNOWN SUBJECT ALKIE SIMPLE ROYERSON VICTIM KIDNAPING USA HERE ADVISE NO  
VIOLATION EXTORTION STATUTE INSTANT LETTER BUT INDICATED POSSIBLE VIOLATION  
USING MAILS TO DEFRAUD AM TAKING NO ACTION EXCEPT TURNING INSTANT LETTER  
OVER TO POSTAL INSPECTORS

HANSON

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

*Eur*  
*Smith*

RECORDED

9-2407-1  
JAN 11 1937 P.M.  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
RECEIVED

THE MINNEAPOLIS JOURNAL TRIBUNE, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, DECEMBER 13, 1936

# KIDNAPING THREAT MARKS AIMEE'S SUIT

By Associated Press.  
Los Angeles, Dec. 12. — Jacob Mader, former Angeles Temple attorney said Saturday he had received letters threatening him with kidnaping and violence if he withdrew against Evangelina Aimee Temple 14, Phyllis in Rhona Gray, for a \$1,000,000 divorce suit. The letters were purportedly from several authorities and last Thursday he was assigned a bodyguard. Mader said Rhonda Temple, Mrs. Mader's estranged daughter, and Mader have declined to confirm or deny the letters.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Baughman	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Foxworth	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*Smith*

112 25/

RECTOR

CHURCH

VIOLATION

USING MA

OVER TO I

4-2464-A

COPIED COPY

TELETYPE

FBI LOSANGELES CALIF 1-7-37 3-30 P EL

DIRECTOR

PHONE. UNSUB. AIMEE SEMPLE MCPHERSON, VICTIM KIDNAPING.

TODAY MR. WILLEDD ANDREWS, ATTORNEY IN LOSANGELES, WHO IS REPRESENTING AIMEE SEMPLE MCPHERSON CONNECTION WITH LITIGATION PENDING BETWEEN HER AND RHEBA CRAWFORD, HER FORMER CHIEF ASSISTANT, RECEIVED A LETTER POSTMARKED PEESKILL NY DECEMBER THIRTY, NINETEEN THIRTY SIX THE LETTER HAVING BEEN WRITTEN BY A PERSON SIGNING NAME AS DOLLY M. CHRISTIAN, RD NUMBER TWO, INFORMING ANDREWS THAT SHE RECENTLY HEARD CONVERSATION BETWEEN TWO STRANGE MEN IN VICINITY OF HER HOME IN WHICH THEY INDICATED THEY PLANNED TO KIDNAP VICTIM AND OBTAIN HER FORTUNE. WRITER OF LETTER CLAIMS THESE MEN OBSERVED HER AND QUESTIONED HER AS TO WHETHER SHE HEARD THEIR CONVERSATION, WHICH SHE ADMITTED AND FOR THIS REASON SHE FEARS BODILY HARM, AND SHE REQUESTED MR. ANDREWS IN HER LETTER TO OBTAIN THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE VICTIM IN ORDER THAT SHE, DOLLY M. CHRISTIAN, COULD BE FURNISHED WITH THIS MONEY TO EMPLOY A BODY GUARD TO PROTECT HER FROM THESE TWO MEN. THERE IS APPARENTLY NO VIOLATION EXTORTION STATUTE INVOLVED IN THIS LETTER. WILL PRESENT TO USA TOMORROW FOR OPINION

HANSON

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON DC CKS

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

9-2407-2  
JAN 12 1937  
FBI

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

EX-108

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.  
January 3, 1937.

7124 -

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

During a telephonic conversation which I had with Mr. Hanson at the Los Angeles Office, he said that he had discussed with the United States Attorney the matter of the letters which were received by Alvin Karpis, McPherson, and the United States Attorney said that the contents did not constitute a violation of the Extortion Statute, but may constitute the offense of using the mails to defraud.

Accordingly, Mr. Hanson said he wanted to advise that in view of this decision on the part of the BIA, the entire matter has been turned over to the Post Office Inspectors.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM.

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

*Smith*

RECORDED  
9-2407-3  
JAN 11 1937 P. M.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Los Angeles, California  
January 9, 1937

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
Aimee Sample McPherson, Victim  
KIDNAPING - L. A. File #7-151

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to teletype of the Los Angeles division to the Bureau dated January 7, 1937, advising of the receipt at Los Angeles by Willedd/Andrews, attorney for the victim, of a letter postmarked Peekskill, New York, December 30, 1936, which indicated that the writer of the letter, Dolly M. Christian, had overheard two men plotting to kidnap Mrs. Aimee Sample McPherson and because of the fact that these two men had learned that the Christian woman overheard their conversation she felt that it was necessary for her to employ a bodyguard, for which reason she was asking Mr. Andrews to furnish her with \$3000.00.

Attached hereto, in triplicate, are copies of the letter to Mr. Andrews referred to above, as well as copies of an enclosure received with it, and the envelope in which it was mailed, as well as the envelope in which the Christian woman expected Mr. Andrews to reply to the letter.

As you were advised by teletype, the facts in this letter were presented to Mr. Wm. Fleet Palmer, Assistant U. S. Attorney, by Special Agent John Whitson of this division on the morning of January 8, 1937, at which time Mr. Palmer advised that there was not involved in the sending of this letter a violation of the Extortion Statute but Mr. Palmer stated that there was possibly involved in it a violation of using the United States Mails to defraud, and he suggested that the letter be delivered to the Postal Inspectors in Los Angeles for investigation. In view of the circumstances in this case, this procedure was followed, Special Agent Whitson delivering the letter in a cellophane envelope to Mr. C. E. Webster, Post Office Inspector, Federal Building, Los Angeles, who at that time was informed of Mr. Palmer's opinion and suggestions. Mr. Andrews, the complainant in this instance, was likewise advised by Special Agent Whitson. You were advised of this action in a telegram from the Los Angeles division dated January 8, 1937, and Mr. Tamm, on an occasion when I was engaged in a telephone conversation with him on the afternoon of January 8, was likewise advised of the action that it was contemplated would be taken. He at that time indicated the Bureau's approval of this action.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

9-2407-4

JAN 10 1937  
FBI - LOS ANGELES

RECORDED  
JAN 16 1937  
IDENT DIV

Director

-2-

1 37

Inasmuch as the victim in this instance has previously been involved in a kidnapping case some years ago, it was presumed that she is acquainted with the proper steps that she should take to protect herself and since the instant letter was received by her attorney it was not believed incumbent upon this Division to contact her in connection with the receipt of this letter. Likewise, because of the action that is being taken in this matter, the New York Division is not being requested to take any action in this case and the matter is being considered as closed in the Los Angeles Division.

At the time the letter in this case was received from Mr. Andrews by Special Agent Wilson, the exact contents of it were not known but as a precautionary matter Mr. Andrews' fingerprints were taken and he has requested that these be filed in the Civil Identification File, for which reason they are attached hereto.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
J. H. Egan  
Special Agent in Charge

JH/H  
Encs.  
Via Air Mail

cc/ 2 New York

LEGAL DIV.

Preskill R V

P O R.

Dec 29th 1936.

Mr Willard Andrews-

Los Angeles, Calif-

"Dear Sir-

I am much worried over an approaching tragedy and feel it my Christian duty to disclose same with you.

"On Friday P M the 18th of this month, while I was in my storage house (about 50 rods from my home) two men ran their car over to the garage under my storage house and had a cruel conversation, not seeing or knowing anyone was near. I crept quietly to a window which was partly open, and knowing they were strangers here, I listened attentively to all they said.

"They first talked about going to N.Y. city and meet some of their pals there.

"They said they were going to California in Feb to kidnap Anne McPherson and get her money - but would keep her and handle her rough (and then they talked awful bad) and then kill her. They said if they let her live she would talk on them and they would get a big punishment; and if they killed her they could hide her body where nobody could ever find it, and then said we will get her if it takes an 10 years.

"I waited more than 1/2 hour for them to drive away - finally I decided to start home and I walked right out.

"When they saw me going away they rolled to me saying: 'Wait, listen and I'll tell you a minute' - then he said: 'We are in this building where we are now' - He asked me if I heard them say they were going to kidnap and kill Anne McPherson - and I replied I did hear them say that.

"They asked me if I knew her. I told him I never met her, but heard about her.

9-24409-4



"Then they said to me if I let her or any one else know this - they would kidnap and kill me. That she and I would meet the same fate.

"If Mrs. McPherson knew this, she would have a body guard and when those criminals see she is guarded they would at once leave I exposed their secret and told her.

"I have no money to pay a body guard for myself.

"You know it would not be right and fair for me to sacrifice my life to save her.

"Before you tell her of this, please ask her if she would not gladly give a person \$3000. to save her life, and of course she will say yes. Ask her to deposit \$3000. with you for that purpose and you will tell her all - it means loss of life to her if she is not protected and the same to me for disclosing the secret.

"I honestly must hire a body-guard and I have no money. I am kind enough to let the scheme of saving her life. She surely must to give me \$3000. for my protection.

"I am a school teacher of several years experience and Evangelist and preached the Gospel in a foreign land.

"I am highly respected by all who know me, and have many accomplishments.

"An highly nervous ailment has not to teach school during the past three years, and I am relatively home.

"Please let Mrs. McPherson and assist to this.

"I am prepared about it and I am sure you will be.

"I hope to hear from you soon. Thanking you.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

"Very truly yours,

"Dolly M. Christian"

The following enclosure was with the foregoing letter.

\* - Special -

"I want you to have and keep \$1000. of the  
sum I asked for - and please send me \$2000. She will  
leave me \$3000 with you.

"I do not want any news-paper reporter or  
anyone else but you to know this terrible secret my  
suggestion in this letter is best way to do.

Dolly M. Christian

Following self-addressed stamped envelope was enclosed:

"Dolly Christian. 3¢ stamp  
Peekskill.  
N. Y.  
R D 2, Westchester County."

Above quoted note was enclosed in following envelope:

"From  
Dolly M. Christian  
Peekskill  
R D 2, Westchester Co. N.Y."

"To Mr. Willard Andrews

Attorney at Law

Los Angeles

Calif."

All foregoing letter, note and envelope were enclosed  
in following envelope:

"after five days return to - 21¢ postage  
D. M. Christian (Registered) (N.Y. 222)  
R D 2. Return Receipt Requested  
Peekskill, N.Y. Fee Paid  
(JAN 5 1937 Second Notice Jan 6 1937)

Mr. Willard Andrews  
Registered (Attorney at Law)  
Return receipt desired Los Angeles, California

COPY

TELETYPE

DECODED COPY

PHILLOS ANGELES

3-25-37

6-15 PM ZL

DEFACTOR

PEESE. UNSUB, MRS. DAVID SELZNICK, VICTIM. ANNA MAY GARD, VICTIM.  
EXTORTION. ADAM SIMPLE MCPHERSON TODAY RECEIVED LETTER POSTMARKED  
LOS ANGELES MARCH TWENTY FOURTH FOUR P M LETTER SIGNED DR A M FOOTE  
IN WHICH WRITER CLAIMS THAT HE HAD JUST BEEN RELEASED FROM CUSTODY  
HAVING CONVINCED POLICE OFFICERS HE HAD NO PART IN WRITING LETTERS  
TO VICTIMS. WRITER MADE NO DEMAND NOR THREAT EXCEPT ASKED  
MCPHERSON TO COME TO HIS ROOM AT THREE THIRTY AM AS HAD ROLE FOR  
HER IN MOVIE. ALSO MENTIONS BELLEVUE WILL PRODUCE HIS PLAY  
AND HIS CHILD WILL BE RETURNED UNHARMED. THE WRITER ALSO MENTIONED  
THAT DR MCCOY HAD IMPORTANT WORK TO DO. SELZNICK CHILD OF COURSE  
HAS NOT BEEN KIDNAPED

END

OK FBI WASHINGTON 3-25-37

RECORDED

INDEXED

9-7407-5

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gandy

APR 8 1937

9-2407

PHILIP A  
DIRECTOR  
INVESTIG  
EXHIBITION  
LOS ANGELES  
IN 1937  
SERVING OF  
TO VICTIM  
MURDERSON  
HER IN NO  
AND HIS CI  
THAT DR IX  
HAS NOT BI

PND  
OK FEB

C O P Y  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Los Angeles, California  
March 28, 1937.

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT,  
Mrs. David Selznick, Victim;  
Anna May Wong, Victim.  
EXTORTION  
L. A. File 9-175

In connection with the above entitled case, there is attached hereto the original of a letter received by ADAME SIMPSON McPHERSON, together with the envelope in which it was mailed. It will be noted that the envelope is postmarked "Los Angeles, California, March 24, 1937, 4 PM, Arcade Annex". It will also be noted that the letter bears the signature of Dr. A. M. Foote, Waldemar Hotel, 606 S. Hope St., L. A., and is similar to the letters sent to Mrs. David Selznick and Anna May Wong.

The Bureau will also find attached to this letter the fingerprints of the following individuals who handled this letter:

OWEN R. KNIGHT, Manager and treasurer of  
Angelo Temple, Los Angeles;

KATHERINE V. KNIGHT, Secretary to Mr. Knight;

Sylvia Knapp, a clerk in Mr. Knight's office.

The enclosed letter was delivered to Special Agent (A) M. B. Myerson by Detectives in the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, who advised that the three above mentioned individuals were the only ones who handled the document; however, in the opinion of the writer, others also handled the letter.

It is requested that the Technical Laboratory make an appropriate study of the attached letter, endeavoring to de-

RECORDED  
INDEXED

9-2407-B

Director

-2-

7-26-37

velop any latent fingerprints found on it, using the fingerprint cards which are enclosed for elimination purposes.

A photostatic copy of the enclosed letter is being retained in the Los Angeles file.

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. E. HANSON,  
Special Agent in Charge

MEM:AB

Encs.

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY.

## Extortionist sentenced

Mrs. Lydia Mary Swenson, the 34-year-old housewife who admitted having sought to extort \$200 from Eva E. Elliot Almon Temple McPherson, today faced a three-month jail sentence, and a \$100 fine.

The sentence was imposed by Superior Judge William T. Agnew, who modified it, however, in the event of getting out of the jail sentence provided Mrs. Swenson paid the fine and left the county within 48 hours.

A probation officer's report indicated the woman is a resident of Minnesota, and that her husband is wealthy.

9-2407-A

Even  
LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
MAY 1 - 1937

# Secret Extortion Suspect Arrested

Arrested Questioned

## POLICE STUDY THREAT NOTES

AN ATTEMPT TO  
to arrested in suburban Los  
the Thursday a man they  
and he was a letter to Anne  
the Melbourne, according to  
While Cap. Ben. Wink was  
the king he was in  
the (Hartford) who is  
of her and she had a  
in with the writing of letters  
of A. M. Foster sent to Mrs. David  
the subject is wife of the music pro  
fessor at Anne May Wong Chan  
the actress demanding \$10,000 from  
each.

Authorities can make public as  
their letter postmarked Thursday  
sitting on a downtown Los An  
gelos station bearing the signature  
"A. M. Foster" is read:  
"My dear Anne: I have just been  
in and from custody as I have con  
sidered police officials that I had no  
part in the letters to Mrs. Schenck."

and Anne May Wong and W. F.  
made in writing this letter in  
place of the first of many  
given the name that I did not  
write the letter.

*Handwritten:*  
Foster  
Coyne

9-2407-A



### Return Questions

## Secret Extortion Suspect Arrested

### Psychiatrist Gives Samples of Handwriting to Plot Investigators

(Continued From Page One)

they said was Mrs. Swenson.  
NAME IN A BOX VOUCH TO PAGE

## Death Throat

On her arrest the officers declared Mrs. Althea Thompson threatened if there were a charge against me I'll kill her. Althea Thompson would stand long if my name gets into the papers.

Letter to Aimee

The letter read:  
"My dear Mother and Sister:  
I am glad to hear from you and I am sure to have you with me at the time I will need it in return."  
—

... delays as you are in great danger of the Black Hand. I have had a vision that you are the only one that can help me. I am going to the 1700 on Monday and I will be back by Saturday the 27th of March. Keep me and you shall find and then will receive. Keep those promises and you will be blessed and prospered. Beware of you with faith.

"Mrs. L. Adams  
105 North Central  
Telephone 1011"

The other letter sent to M. M. Turner is an obvious effort to substantiate his signature as "A. M. Ford" began.

"I have just been released from custody so I have convinced justice officials that I had no part in the letters to Mrs. Sehnack and Anna May May and if you feel safe in releasing this letter to justice I feel quite confident of again convincing them I did not write this misabe."

### Apology to Star

With a cryptic mention of a "letter" from "her local and personal friends," the page officials attempted to make the letter appear that certain facts had been "discussed" at the first meeting. In regard to Miss Wong and her husband, the writer was explicit:

"I found the following: A letter from a Japanese very famous in the U.S.A. to America, and a description of plans for a mother-in-law house, very detailed and a short poem which included a word that Miss McPherson used. The writer had \$3.50 a close call on me in disguise."

'I Am Jewish'

When you converse with me the letter showed "you will have it revealed to you that I am Jesus a man of words but I have for years assumed man's burdens and for not completed without your aid."

While Federal and local authorities were checking the notes, District Attorney Ruffin disclosed he was holding a man under technical arrest while handwriting experts studied his German. In competition with the original extortion notes, Miss Wynn, Jim Seabek and Dexter Leade

Buts would not reveal the identity of the suspect but he is a man known as Wang Shun and Buts would point a "stick into the picture."

While the two figures appear in the story, the fictionlike en-

plan to appear in a motion picture of his own in which he would play the part of Jesus. The letter to Doctor Price informed him that the bank had selected him as intermediary to receive the money and await instructions as to payment to the writer.

After a 20-minute interview with Miss Wozg, Pitt said he is convinced that she was merely the innocent victim selected by the apparently twisted mind of the writer. She could he said think of nothing that might have suggested her to the maker of threats as a possible victim.

And if he knew Howard Hughes, Miss Wang replied that she as well as a number of other girls sold

**Clad in Rubber**

Miss Wong was escorted to District Attorney's office by Deputy District Attorney Walter Engstrom. T.R. Linton, her manager, and Miss Cohen, Linton's wife, were a long black oak over the silver Chinese robes that brought a strangely eerie nod to the pink surroundings, unapparent of course.

that for Reynolds' entrance into the case remained valid in my view. Authorities would not say why he had been asked to cooperate saying only that the case is very much under investigation and that they were following every possible line which might lead to a clue.

Daniel Reynolds described himself as completely mystified as to why he had been asked to aid in the investigation and said that he knew nothing of the case except what he had read in newspapers.

It is well known that a psychotic state



DR. REYNOLDS LIGHTS CIGARETTES

and it means except you and I am sure to save yourself and me. It still will be by return mail.

Delay as you are in great danger of the Black Hand. I have had a vision that you are the only one that can help me. Please send me \$2000 so I can get it by Saturday the 24th of March. Next and you shall find and then will receive. Keep these promises and you will be blessed and prosperous. Beware of you with fall.

"Mrs. E. Akers  
283 North Central Ave.,  
Glendale, Calif."

The other letter sent to M. A. McPherson in an obvious effort to substantiate its signature of "A. M. Froese" began:

I have just been released from custody as I have convinced police officials that I had no part in the letters to Mrs. Selznick and Anne May Wong and if you feel safe in resending this letter to police I feel quite confident of again convincing them I did not write this message."

#### Apology to Star

With a cryptic mention of information that local and Federal and espionage officials are not aware of, the letter said that circumstances had been set in motion that would support the writer's regard to Miss Wong and would lead to her the writer's apologies.

I thought the torturing to death of a Japanese boy because of his loyalty to America and restoration of plans for a motion picture involving Selznick made a weird pattern which included a demand that Miss McPherson meet the writer at 3 M. O'clock this morning in disguise.

#### 'I Am Jesus'

"When you converse with me, the letter closed, 'you will hate it revealed to you that I am Jesus, a much worn Jesus but I have for ages assumed man's burdens and feel not completed without your aid'."

While Federal and local authorities were checking the note, District Attorney Byron Pitt disclosed he was holding a man under technical arrest while handwriting experts studied his penmanship in comparison with the original extortion notes to Miss Wong, Mrs. Selznick and Doctor Froese.

Pitt would not reveal the identity of the suspect but said the man knew Miss Wong, Selznick and Doctor Froese and "fitted into the picture."

While this new figure appeared in the story the fictionlike complexities of the case were heightened by the dramatic appearance at the District Attorney's office of Anne May Wong, clad in silken Chinese robes, and the mysterious entrance into the situation of Dr. Fred Reynolds, psychiatrist and author.

#### Question Actress

Miss Wong was questioned as to any possible knowledge she might have and would disclose the identity of the man who looks just like Jesus, and she wrote the letter to her with its demand for \$20,000 at a sinister threat if she failed to help him obtain production of a new picture.

Doctor Reynolds, declaring that he knew nothing of the case and was not acquainted with Miss Wong, Selznick and Doctor Froese, willingly gave his fingerprints and samples of handwriting to aid in the investigation. Federal investigators concerned in the inquiry said that Washington would be asked to help by expert study of the threatening letters and the handwriting samples.

The notes received last Tuesday demanded money from Miss Wong and Selznick, referring to

um Pitt said

#### Clad in Robes

Miss Wong was escorted to the District Attorney's office by Deputy District Attorney Wesley Engstrom. T. H. Conlon, her manager, and Miss Colleen Conlon, who wore a long black cloak over the silken Chinese robes that brought a strangely excited note to the press surroundings, and appeared nervous.

Doctor Reynolds' entrance into the case reinforced what in mystery. Authorities would not say why he had been asked to cooperate, saying only that "the case is very much under investigation and that they were following every possible line which might lead to a clue."

Doctor Reynolds expressed himself as completely mystified as to why he had been asked to aid in the investigation, and said that he knew nothing of the case except what he had read in newspapers.

Widely known as a psychiatrist



DR. REYNOLDS LIGHTS CIGARETTE

The author of "Broadway Awaken" in the District Attorney's office, where he gave samples of his handwriting to investigators of the Selznick Wong extortion case.

and expert witness in many cases involving the question of insanity. Doctor Reynolds is also a writer. He is the author of "The Mystery of the Broadway Awakening" and "The Sleepwalker," a play said to be produced by a little theater group.

He was accompanied to the District Attorney's office yesterday by Attorney J. A. Hamilton of the firm of Hanna & Martin.

terious situation. The  
tion of the fact they  
restraint and author

#### Question Actress

Miss Wong was questioned as to any possible knowledge she might have who would disclose the identity of the "man who looks just like Jean" and who wrote the letter to her with its demand for \$20,000 and similar threats if she failed to help him obtain production of a motion picture.

Doctor Reynolds, declaring that he knew nothing of the case and was not acquainted with Miss Wong, Belmont and Doctor Ford, willingly gave his fingerprints and samples of handwriting to aid in the investigation. Federal investigators concerned in the inquiry said that Washington would be asked to help by expert study of the threatening letters and various handwriting samples.

The notes received last Tuesday, demanded money from Miss Wong and Belmont, suggesting in

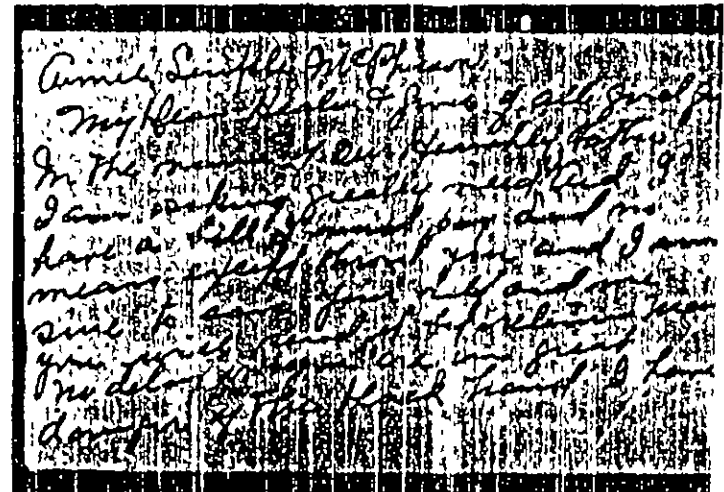
volving the question of a man Doctor Reynolds is also a writer. He is the author of "The Mystery of the Broadway Mystery" and "The Sleepwalker," a play soon to be produced by a Little Theater group.

He was accompanied to the District Attorney's office yesterday by Attorney J. A. Hamilton of the firm of Hobbs & Morton.

## Woman Suspect, and Threat Sent to Aimee

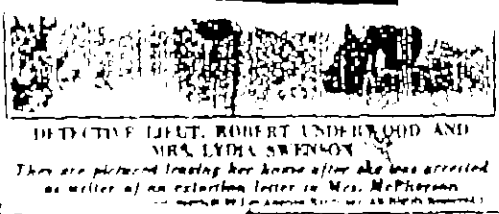


DETECTIVE LIEUT. ROBERT UNDERWOOD AND MRS. LYDIA SWENSON  
They are pictured leaving her home after she was arrested as writer of an extortion letter to Mrs. McPherson.



LETTER RECEIVED BY MRS. AIMEE McPHERSON  
Detectives said Mrs. McPherson wrote for it and that the paper and ink corresponded to a letter similar to that sent to Aimee.

COPIED EXAMINED  
MAR 26 1937



DETECTIVE LEUT. ROBERT UNDERWOOD AND  
MRS. LYDIA SWENSON  
They are pictured leaving her home after she was arrested  
as writer of an extortion letter to Mrs. McPherson.

PHOTOGRAPH EXAMINED  
MAR 28 1937

# POLICE SAYS SUSPECT IN FILM THREATS

Two Notes Sent to Extortionist  
Bring Two Arrests; Check  
Handwriting On Letters  
Arrest of a middle-aged  
Minnesota woman on charges  
of sending a threatening let-  
ter to Alvin Karpis, McPherson  
and called as a dramatic side-  
light yesterday in investiga-  
tion of bizarre extortion notes  
directed at Anna May Wong,  
Chinese film star, and Mrs.  
David O. Reizick, wife of the  
screen producer.  
—Associated Press— It was revealed  
that a man whose name was with-  
held in an official custody while  
his handwriting is being iden-  
tified with that of the man  
who demanded \$10,000 each  
from the actress and producer's  
with no hint of identification  
high to have handled.  
Two Notes Sent  
The note to Mrs. McPherson  
which brought about the arrest  
of a woman.

...the earlier letters, it was  
filled with bizarre references to  
a Biblical nation picture and also  
to Japanese espionage, and for  
them was signed with the name  
of "A. M. Price, M. D.," a third  
recipient of extortion notes Tues-  
day.  
\$200 Demanded  
Charged with sending a letter  
to Mrs. McPherson demanding  
\$200 with a cryptic warning  
against the "Black Hand," Mrs.  
Lydia Swenson, 51, of 708 North  
Central street, Glendale, was  
taken into custody by Detective  
Lieutenant J. P. Wickstead  
and D. R. Patton.  
Through a raid, they said, they  
induced her to write a note sim-  
ilar to that received by the even-  
ing, in paper and with purple  
ink that matched. The note was  
signed "Mrs. L. Alton," which  
(Continued on Page 2, Column 2)

ands  
in

March 28  
today.  
attempt to  
McIntire

March 28  
today.  
attempt to  
McIntire

March 28  
today.  
attempt to  
McIntire

March 28  
today.  
attempt to  
McIntire

March 28  
today.  
attempt to  
McIntire

# WOMAN CONFESSES TO PLOT AGAINST AMER-

## POLICE JAIL SUSPECT IN FILM THREATS

Two Notes Sent to Evergreen  
Bring Two Arrests. Charge  
Harder on Lettice

Arrest of a middle-aged  
Minnesota woman on charges  
of writing a threatening let-  
ter to Alvin Karpis and his  
son came as a dramatic story  
light yesterday in investiga-  
tion of movie extortion notes  
directed at Anna May Wong,  
Chinese film star, and wife  
David O. Selznick wife of the  
famous producer.

Apparently it was revealed  
that a man whose name was  
held in in Sweden's custody  
has handwriting in being sub-  
pared with that of the woman  
which demanded \$20,000 from  
the actress and producer's  
wife on pain of disfigurement  
to their families.

### Two Notes Sent

The note to Mrs. Selznick  
which brought about the arrest  
of a Glendale woman was  
at first attributed to the  
group yesterday. It apparently  
had no connection with the  
movie film plot, but the arrest  
ported by news from the  
of the film plot.

### 1240 Demanded

Charged with writing a letter  
to Mrs. Selznick demanding  
\$20,000 with a couple of women  
against the "Black Hand" and  
Lydia Swenson, 44, of 722 South  
Central avenue, Glendale, who  
taken into custody by Detective  
Lieutenants R. P. Underwood  
and D. R. Patton.

Through a time, they said, they  
induced her to write a note sim-  
ilar to those received by the group,  
on paper and with pen-  
cils that matched. The note was  
signed "Mrs. L. Ahorn," which

Continued on Page 2, Column 1

TI  
RL  
AS

via Star  
4/28/37



**Demand for \$200 in Letter**

LOS ANGELES, March 26 (AP) — A demand for \$200 was made today by a man who said he was a member of the Black Panther Party. The man, who gave no name, said he was a member of the Black Panther Party and was demanding \$200 from the Los Angeles Police Department. He said he was a member of the Black Panther Party and was demanding \$200 from the Los Angeles Police Department. He said he was a member of the Black Panther Party and was demanding \$200 from the Los Angeles Police Department.

*K. J. [Signature]*

9-2407-A

1-1-57

# Aimee Turns Up With Foote' Extortion

## Evangelist Offered Role in 'Movie'

JUST when it looked as if Aimee Simple McPherson was about to be left high and dry with publicity splashing all around her, the timely mailman yesterday brought her an extortion note from the same apparent "crackpot," who cast Anna May Wong, Chinese actress, and David Selznick, studio chief, for big things in his film-life of Christ.

Mrs. McPherson thus went out in front, but not as far out in front as District Attorney Biron Fitts, who found himself again fearlessly prosecuting at third base, with Hearst on second and Chandler on first.

It looks like an extra-inning game, if the customers don't file out of the stands by the thousands before somebody hits a home run and sends the leaving tears to the showers.

"Dr. A. M. Foote," the bull in the "crackpottery shop" really could himself in his letter to Aimee. Excerpt paragraphs read:

"I write to you, as you have undertaken. There has equal undertaken, but she does not have your kindness. Miss Wong can help us find the people who tortured this boy and we can get to Hearst the information we have."

"I want you to come down to my room at 230 a. m. and disguise your appearance. I have a role in the movie for you and I want Dr. McPherson in a part of Aaron and again as John, the Baptist."

"When you converse with me, you will have it revealed to you that I am Jesus, a much-worn Jesus, but I have for ages received your letters and I will not forget them."

"I am A. M. Foote."

"This boy," to whom the good doctor referred, was identified as a "Japanese boy put to death by the cruel and savage of tortuous torments he was as particularly American that he was about to arrive to the United States of Japan, his people to his country."

Aimee was asked for \$2000 by the doctor (Dr. McPherson) her business manager, but no time turning the letter over to the police.

In searching through the Angeles Temple mail bag, Knight found another crackpot letter this yesterday afternoon, asking "My dear Hearst and Over of all Good" for \$200. Letter No. 2 was signed Mrs. L. Aimee, 763 South Central avenue, Glendale.

Two detective headquarters observed the address and took to court: there Mrs. Lydia Hoverson, 44, wife of a retired Danish housewife, P. M. Hoverson. Mrs. Hoverson, denying she wrote the letter for a short payment on a new car, was booked on suspicion of extortion.

One of the subsequent notes of today in the day's proceedings was headed by Anna May Wong. Miss Wong visited District Attorney Fitts in company with T. R. Chasen, her business manager, and

his daughter, Cathleen Chasen, she said, personally, she would not have done anything about the letter had not their existence been revealed through other means.

"Actresses receive literally hundreds of this kind of letters constantly," Miss Wong told Fitts. "They do not frighten me, as I believe they are the work of cranks and mentally unbalanced persons. I didn't attach any importance to the receipt of these present letters and I still do not believe they are important."

Dr. Carl Raymond, physician and playwright, was dragged into the "investigation" by district attorney's men. In response to their summons, he came to the district attorney's office accompanied by A. A. Hunsford, a member of the law firm of Hanson & Hunsford, admitted to various books, given samples of his handwriting, left his fingerprints, and remained unimpressed, but puzzled.

*Handwritten signature: A. M. Foote*

*Handwritten number: 9-2407-A*

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER

MAR 26 1937

Man Who Looks Like  
Artists' Christ Is  
Hunted on Coast

LOS ANGELES, March 28 (U. P.)—Police today sought "the man who looks like the artist conception of Jesus," as the effect of threatening letters to Avenue May 1909, Mrs. David O. Salenack and Dr. A. M. Pease.

The writer has demanded money to aid in producing a motion picture with himself in the role of Christ. In looking for physical district attorney's investigators have followed strange paths.

In the mail-trainable side lanes that developed when Albee Scribner McPherson returned two letters demanding \$200 upon threat of harm, Miss Lydia Stevenson, 41-year-old Okaloosa housewife, was arrested before Municipal Judge Clement D. Nye on a charge of sending the letters in an attempt to extort money. Her preliminary hearing was set for March 24. Bond was fixed at \$22,000.

Miss Stevenson, admitting that she wrote the Albee letters, is not believed to be involved in the Wong and Bettick case.

1700 N. Post St. -  
and in Lincoln Heights jail.

WASE HERALD

MAR 27 1937

One of the nation's broad-based activity in the day's broad-based activity was launched by Adam May White, who was elected to the office of Mayor of New York City.



# WOMAN, 43, CONFESSES

## \$200 EXTORTION PLOT

"Black Hand" Near to Almas Sample McPherson Traced to California Housewife.

By the Associated Press.  
LOS ANGELES, March 24.—A bottle of orange ink, Detective Lieut. Robert F. Underwood said today, caused a 43-year-old housewife to confess writing a "black hand" note to Almas Sample McPherson, demanding \$200.

The note, one of two received yesterday by the stranded, warned "you are in great danger of the black hand." "It needed \$200 to pay down on a new car," Underwood said the arrested woman explained. She was booked on suspicion of extortion as Mrs. Lydia Swenson. The note was signed "Mrs. L. Albert," but carried Mrs. Swenson's Omaha address, the officer asserted. When first questioned, Detective Underwood said, she denied any knowledge of a Mrs. Albert and insisted there was no ink in her house similar to the violet hue used in the extortion note.

A search disclosed a bottle of ink of identical shade and similar cards and envelopes in a suitcase. Underwood asserted. After her handwriting was checked, Underwood said, the woman admitted authorship.

Underwood identified Mrs. Swenson as the wife of F. M. Swenson, a retired Detroit, Mich., businessman, who said he had no knowledge of his wife's letter.

*Spencer*  
*Chicago*  
*WV*

9-2407A

WASH DC

MAR 26 1937

JOSEPH

**Woman Held For  
Threat to Aimee.**

LOS ANGELES, March 24.  
Mrs. Lydia Swenson, forty-three-  
year-old wife of a retired Danish  
miner, hereafter, was taken into  
custody tonight in connection with  
a \$200 extortion letter received by  
Evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson.

At police headquarters she  
showed her defiance by shouting:  
"Aimee is the money, and I  
want to get money from Aimee.  
If Aimee makes me any trouble,  
I shall shoot her."

*Spokane  
Daily Star*

9-2407-14

WASH TIMES

R. E. JOSEPH

**Woman Admits Threat**

LOS ANGELES—A middle-aged housewife admitted today to an attempt to kill a man from Brundageville, Anne Sophie McPherson, 42, wife of a retired teacher, said she signed her own address to a threatening letter one of a growing crop of threats that have harassed prominent Californians for weeks.

9-2407-A

WASH NEWS

MAR 26 1937

R. E. JOSEPH

# Bail in extortion case reduced

Mrs. Lydia Newman, 41, the  
Oxnard housewife who yesterday  
wrote an emotional but scathing  
letter threatening to  
prosecute Alvin Karpis McPherson,  
was told for trial under \$5000  
bail today.

Metropolitan Judge Clement M.  
Rye reduced the bail from \$25,000  
to \$5000 after preliminary  
hearing yesterday, ordered her  
to stand by a charge of extortion  
on April 14.

The note, which demanded \$500,  
was written on a gilt-edged correspondence  
card in purple ink. On  
the inside of the envelope Mrs.  
Newman gave a fictitious name  
but her true address, and her  
at follow-up in short order.

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	

*Euro*  
*Vogel*

9.2487-A

Accused of Throbbing Alouse  
LOS ANGELES, March 31 (AP)—  
charged with sending a threatening  
letter to Mrs. Alouse Gumpie Mrs.  
Pherson, demanding \$200. Mrs. Lada  
overnoon, forty-three years old, was  
bald today to answer charge of de-  
votion.

N. Y. HERALD-TRIBUNE

Forwarded by New York Office

APR 1 - 1937

9-2407-A

CONFESSES DEMAND ON AIMEE



Glendale, Calif., March 24.—(AP)—Wirephoto.—Detectives Thursday night arrested Mrs. [Name] [Name], whom they said took a note to Everett Earl James McPherson demanding \$200. They said she had no connection with other demands sent to Mrs. McPherson. Mrs. [Name] is shown as she is questioned by a police lieutenant. Story on page 10.

*Handwritten:* S. [unclear]  
[unclear] Kessel

*Handwritten:* 9-2407-A

# **HELD IN AIMEE THREAT** **Woman Shouts Defiance of Evangel**

LOS ANGELES, March 21.—Evangelist Aimee Schlegel McPherson, 45, at police headquarters, the 45-year-old wife of a retired Danish, showed her defiance by shouting, "Aimee give the money, and I want to get money from Aimee." Mrs. Linderman was taken into custody tonight in connection with a \$100 extortion held received by Aimee about \$100.

*Ex-  
 High Vogel*

*9-2407A*

WASH HERALD

MAR 26 1937

R. E. JOSEPH  
*K*

**HEARS NOTE TO AMES -  
HOLDS WOMAN ON COAST**

LOS ANGELES, April 1 (UPI).—  
Mrs. Lydia Kerkman, forty-three,  
today faced Superior Court trial  
charged with writing Alvaro Semple  
McPherson a note demanding \$200.  
The woman, wife of a retired  
Dahoti, Minn., lumberman, was  
held for trial at a brief preliminary  
hearing yesterday.

NEW YORK POST  
Forwarded by New York Office  
APR 1 - 1937

9-2407-A



# Detectives Seek Writer of Threat to Aimee

While two policemen searched Aimee's apartment for clues, eight homicide detectives conducted an investigation attempting to learn the identity of the author of a letter threatening the woman's life.

The police warned Mrs. Aimee that unless she voluntarily gave up her apartment, it would be removed by force.

Capt. Bert Miller of the Los Angeles department stated that the threat letter apparently had been sent by a woman, but that police records would be searched for anyone who had been in contact with the woman.

*Handwritten:*  
Vogel

9-7407-A

**THREAT TO KIDNAP LADIE-  
LAID TO DERANGED MAN**

LOS ANGELES, March 22 (UP).  
—A deranged man was caught by  
police today as the author of a note  
threatening to kidnap Althea Temple  
McPherson from her Angeleno  
home.  
Incoherent parts of the note in-  
dicated it was written by a crazy  
man who said

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Boardman	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Carson	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Gurnea	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Jones	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Mr. Gandy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*Logan*

NEW YORK POST  
Forwarded by New York Office  
MAR 23 1937

9-2407-A

## WOMAN ADMITS AIMEE THREAT

Los Angeles, March 24.—(AP)—A bottle of purple ink. Detective Lieutenant Robert F. Underwood last Friday, caused a 43-year-old housewife to confess writing a "black hand" note to Alanna Seelye McPherson, demanding \$300.

The note was one of two received Thursday by the investigator.

"I needed \$300 to pay down on a new car," Underwood said the arrested woman explained. She was booked on suspicion of extortion as Mrs. Lydia Sherman. The note was signed "Mrs. L. Alana" but carried Mrs. Sherman's Glendale address, the officer asserted.

When first questioned, Detective Underwood said, she denied any knowledge of a Mrs. Alana and had stated there was no link in her house similar to the victim from any of the extortion note.

A search disclosed a bundle of ink of identical shade and similar cards and envelopes in a basement. Underwood asserted. After her hands writing was checked, Underwood said, the woman admitted authorship.

The note signed Elmer Alana as "My Dear Healer and Owner of All Good Ours," and added:

"I have a bill that must be paid and no means except you, and I am sure to save yourself and me you will send it by return mail.

"No delay, as you are in great danger of the black hand. I have had a vision that you are the only one that can help me, so please send me \$300. Keep these promises and you will be blessed and prosperous. Beware for you will fail."

The second letter sent Mrs. McPherson was signed "A. M. Fols." and apparently was written by a weird subscriber who has been sought by investigators since Tuesday.

Notes bearing this signature and asking \$3,000 to avert a threat of harm were received this week by Anna May Wong, Chinese actress, and Mrs. David O. Selznick, wife of the film producer.

Detectives said they were written by a drunk or an enemy of A. M. Fols, retired Los Angeles chiropractor. He received a letter signed "The Gang." It ordered him to act as an intermediary for the extortion payments.

9-2407-A

THE DULUTH TRIBUNE, DULUTH, MINN., MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1937

## Duluth Woman Admits Aimee Extortion Note

Says She Sought \$200  
From Evangelist to Pay  
on New Auto

Los Angeles—AP—Mrs. Leta  
Swenson, 42, wife of a retired Du-  
luth, Minn., lumberman, confessed  
today police said, to an attempt  
to extort \$200 from the evangelist,  
Aimee Semple McPherson.

Mrs. Swenson wanted the \$200  
to pay for a down payment on a new  
car, she told police. Then she  
shouted defiantly:

"Aimee gets money from other  
people so I'll get it from her."

Swenson pressed a charge against Mc-  
Pherson, saying she threatened to  
stand him up if any more gets out  
the papers.

When police called at the home  
Mrs. Swenson indignantly denied the  
any knowledge of the matter. She  
said she had a bottle of purple ink

and threatened to use it to  
write a note similar to the one carrying  
the threat.

Mrs. Swenson offered to dupli-  
cate the note in her own handwriting.

When she was asked to prove her innocence, she  
said she had a bottle of purple ink and  
threatened to use it to write a note similar to the one carrying  
the threat. The officers  
found a bottle of purple ink and overpowered her.

9-2407-A



LOS ANGELES — Because she  
passed to "Mrs. Lillian Simmons,  
43, is in jail for writ-  
ing a threatening letter, de-  
manding \$200. The money  
was "for a good time."

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.  
Mr. Nathan S. Kalmanson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR  
Forwarded by New York Office  
MAR 30 1937

9-2487A

2

# HOUSEWIFE HELD FOR AIMEE THREAT

Demanded \$200 From Evan-  
gelist for New Car—Will  
Kill Her, She Says

LOS ANGELES, March 26 (UPI)—  
A middle-aged housewife detained  
today by police said, on an attempt to  
arrest her, that she threatened  
Aimee Temple McPherson.  
She was Mrs. Lydia Swenson,  
forty-three years old, a retired lumber  
man. She claimed her own address  
is a (circled) address.  
Mrs. Swenson accused the evangelist  
for a down payment on a new car,  
she told police. There she showed  
defiance.  
"Aimee says many more other  
people as I'll get to know her. I  
Aimee says a charge against  
me I'll kill her. Aimee's temple  
won't stand long if my name goes  
into the papers."  
Gave Own Address.  
Police were directed to the home  
on Jones by Mrs. Swenson, who  
stated, from an address, that the  
money was to be paid. She said  
she was "Mrs. E. Aimee" in wife  
the Swenson's account. Swenson  
said she was his wife by  
a previous marriage.

NEW YORK POST

Forwarded by New York Office

MAR 26 1937

9-2407-A

6

CCF Y

DECODED COPY

MAR 26 1937

62 55 NL GOVT COLLECT VIA MACKAYRADIC

BY LOS ANGELES CALIF MAR 5 1937

DIR FBI

AARIN DC

UNSUB MRS DAVID SELANICK ET AL VIKER LA PD ARRESTED TONIGHT MRS LYDIA JENSEN  
OLINDAIA CALIFORNIA CHARGE ATTEMPT EXTORTION TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS FROM ARMY  
SENAPLE MCDONERSON STOP LETTER APPARENTLY HAS NO CONNECTION INSTANT CASE  
STY CAN OT ASCERTAIN UNTIL TOMORROW IF SENAPLE LETTER VIOLATION OUR  
JURISDICTION IF SO POSSIBLE FEDERAL PROSECUTION ALTHOUGH SENAPLE SEEMS  
POSSIBLY INSANE

HANSON

CIRAM MAR 26...

ORIGINAL FILED IN 9-2637-6

CARBON COPY

WIS

DIRECT

CHSUS N

WRITTEN

RECORDED

INDEXED

9-2647-1

*Handwritten signature/initials*

7

PERSON  
COPY

RECORDED COPY

POSTAL

MAR 26 1937

WIS 22/19 COLLECT

FM LOS ANGELES CALIF. 24 1208 P

DIRECTOR

FBI DE DEPT OF JUSTICE WASH DC

URGENT RE: DAVID BELMICK ETAL VIOLATE RETEL LAST NIGHT CONCERNING LETTER  
WRITTEN BY SWENSON WOMAN TO VIOLATION OUR JURISDICTION.

HANDON

2297

RECORDED

INDEXED

9-2647-2

ORIGINAL FILED IN 9-2649-11



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

DATE  
Time - 6:45 PM

February 8, 1938.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Ross called me from Los Angeles at this time and said that he had just received a call from the Los Angeles Examiner to the effect that a man named Hart had surrendered at the office of the Examiner, stating that he had sent a letter through the mails to Aimee Semple McPherson demanding \$10,000 on threat of death. Mr. Ross stated that Mrs. McPherson did receive such a letter today, postmarked last night at 7 P. M., and that the Los Angeles Examiner wanted the Los Angeles Bureau Office to come get Hart; they apparently not notifying the Police or anyone else. Mr. Ross stated that last Saturday, Hart, who is a one-legged man, gave himself up to the United States Marshal, who sent Hart to the Los Angeles Bureau Office. At that time Hart told a story that he had sent a threatening letter to Mrs. McPherson threatening to publish a photograph of her in the nude if she did not give him so much money. However, at that time a check with Mrs. McPherson indicated that no such letter had been received by her, and as the Post Office Inspectors did not desire to take any action Hart was not held. Mr. Ross asked what action should be taken in this matter.

I told Mr. Ross to get Hart from the newspaper office and also get the letter from Mrs. McPherson, after which the entire facts should be presented to the United States Attorney.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

9-3458-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

THE OKLAHOMA CITY TRIBUNE  
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
 February 9, 1939

# Aimee Slaying Threat Bared

Crippled Man Confesses  
 Extortion Attempt



James E. Hart (left) Wednesday  
 LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8.—De-  
 partments of justice agents  
 were told Wednesday by a con-  
 science-stricken crippled man that  
 he sent a death threat letter to  
 Evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson  
 because "I thought I might  
 bluff her into leaving the same  
 ropes."  
 The letter, demanding \$10,000, was  
 received by the evangelist Tuesday.  
 A few hours later, James E. Hart  
 voluntarily surrendered and was  
 booked at the county jail on sus-  
 picion of attempted extortion, with  
 bail set at \$10,000.  
 The note warned Mrs. McPherson  
 that "unless you pay me \$10,000  
 in cash you will be overtake by  
 quick death in your home." It was  
 signed with a question mark.  
 "I never intended to harm her,"  
 Agent John Harman quoted Hart as  
 saying.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gandy

*Handwritten signature: E. J. Connelley*

*Handwritten mark: a large loop or '9'*

9-3458-A

Charged with using the mails in an attempt to extort \$10,000 from Evangelist Almes Bemple McPherson, on a threat of "death in your home," James E. Hart, 33, cripple of 347 South Los Angeles street, yesterday surrendered to Federal agents and was jailed.

It was the second time within a week a would-be extortionist surrendered before a threatening letter had reached its intended victim. The first note was sent to Postmistress Mary D. Briggs and threatened a death unless \$10,000 were paid to the sender. James Winthrop, former convict, was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury on charges of using the mails to extort, and was being returned to the County Jail at about the same time Hart was being booked at the jail on a similar complaint.

Both Winthrop, who walked into a police station before Mrs. Briggs had received his note, and Hart, who similarly surrendered before Mrs. McPherson had received the one sent her, claimed they had given themselves up rather than face relentless pursuit by Federal authorities.

“Hart said he had hoped to ‘stuff’ Abram into sending the money,” but that he had not intended to harm her. Withneps, following his arrest, said he wanted to “make the job home” as he couldn’t get along on the “outside.”

"Hoax or not," a Federal agent declared, "we can't let these fellows get away with it. If they want to make prison, we'll accommodate them."

The Federal Grand Jury will consider Hart's case next Wednesday, while Winthrop is scheduled for arraignment in Federal Court next Monday.

Mr. Thomas  
Mr. Goldstein  
J. M. Hall  
Mr. Chase  
Mr. Carter  
Mr. E. J. ...  
Mr. Fyfe  
Mr. ...  
Mr. ...  
Mr. H. ...  
Mr. ...  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. ...  
Mr. ...  
Mr. ...  
Mr. ...  
Mr. ...  
Mr. ...  
Mr. ...

Mr. F. White  
Mr. T. White  
Mr. V. White  
Mr. W. White  
Mr. X. White  
Mr. Y. White  
Mr. Z. White

9-3458-A

LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS  
FEB 10 1938

# CRIPPLE ADMITS

## AIMEE DEATH NOTE

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8 (AP)—A conscience-stricken cripple told Department of Justice agents today that he sent a death-threat letter to Evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson because "I thought I might bluff her into sending me some money." The letter, demanding \$10,000, was received by the evangelist yesterday. Later, James E. Hart voluntarily surrendered and was booked at the county jail on a charge of attempted extortion. "I never intended to harm her," Hart said.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Starnes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Starnes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_

Q

9-3458-A

Clipping from  
 NEW YORK POST

DATE: FEB 9 1938

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

# AIMEE'S THREATENER



## TODAY IN LOS ANGELES

James E. Hart, a kidnaper, was arrested and confessed that he sent a threatening letter to Evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson because "I thought I might bluff her out of some money." — A. P. Wirephoto.

LOS ANGELES, Wednesday, Feb. 7. — Department of Justice agents were told today by a confidential source that he sent a death-threat letter to Evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson because "I thought I might bluff her into sending me some money."

The note warned Mrs. McPherson that unless you pay me \$10,000 in cash you will be overtaken by quick death in your home. It was mailed with airmail tag marked "John Henry Hennessey to term."

James E. Hart, a kidnaper, was arrested and confessed that he sent a threatening letter to Evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson because "I thought I might bluff her out of some money."

Seattle Times  
Seattle, Washington  
February 9, 1938

9-3458-A

[illegible]

*[Handwritten signature]*

Q

9-3458-A

The man told reporters he was just tired of being a burglar and thought he might turn around to asking the same money. He never intended to harm her.

No. T-1

1-2-30

9-3458-1X

February 14, 1938

San. File #

Special Agent in Charge,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Referring to fingerprints forwarded by you, please be  
advised that an examination of the fingerprint records  
of the Federal Bureau of Investigation fails to disclose  
any data concerning the following:

James E. [unclear]

FEB 14 1938

RECEIVED  
FEB 14 1938  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours, FEB 14 1938

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

9-3458-1X	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

L.A. FILE NO. 9-212

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES, CALIF.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/18/38</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/2, 8, 9/38</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>A. R. MILLER</b>
TITLE <b>JAMES E. HART alias Charles King; ALICE SEMPLE MC PHERSON - Victim</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>EXTORTION.</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject, age 33, a beggar, wrote and mailed a handwritten letter to ALICE SEMPLE MC PHERSON on February 7, 1938, demanding \$10,000 and threatening quick death if money not forthcoming. Subject voluntarily surrendered himself to the Los Angeles Examiner, a daily newspaper, Feb. 8, 1938, and was taken into custody by Bureau Agents on the same day. Subject, in signed statement, admitted writing and mailing note. Subject admitted he had previously on Feb. 1, 1938, sent a letter to MRS. MC PHERSON threatening to publish a nude photograph. This letter never received by MRS. MC PHERSON. Complaint filed Feb. 9, 1938, before U. S. Commissioner DAVID B. REED for violation Title 18, Section 338a, U.S.C.A., Extortion. Bond \$10,000. Original letter, sample stationery, and handwriting specimens forwarded to Technical Laboratory.

**DETAILS:**

**AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:**

This case originated on information received from MR. LEXIS of the Editorial Department of the Los Angeles Examiner, who, on February 8, 1938, called the Bureau Office and stated that there was presently in

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	9-13458-2
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau 2 - Los Angeles	FEB 22 1938	FEB 23 1938



his office an individual named HART who had confessed to writing and mailing an extortion letter to AIMEE SEMPLE MC PHERSON on February 7, 1938.

Agent and Special Agent F. M. Stone took subject HART into custody at the Los Angeles Examiner Office on February 8, 1938, and brought him to the Bureau office for questioning. It is here noted that on February 5, 1938, subject HART came into the Los Angeles Bureau Office and was interviewed by Special Agent W. P. Morin, whose memorandum in connection with this interview follows:

JAMES E. HART, 347 South Los Angeles St., Los Angeles, California, came into this office today and stated that he wanted to give himself up to the Federal authorities; that he had sent an extortion letter to Aimee Semple McPherson on Tuesday, February 1, 1938, in which letter he threatened to publish a photograph of Aimee Semple McPherson in the nude if she didn't place \$100,000. in an old shoe box by Saturday night, February 5, 1938. HART stated that he decided not to go through with his scheme and stated that he knew that the Federal officials would get him if he did; that he decided to give himself up and save the Government a lot of time. As this did not come within the purview of this Bureau and came within the jurisdiction of the Post Office Department, Inspector E. D. Chance of the Post Office Department was contacted telephonically and advised of the above facts. Inspector Chance stated that he would get in contact with MRS. McPHERSON to ascertain if she had received such a letter as HART stated he had sent to her. Inspector Chance telephonically communicated with this Agent and advised that he had spoken to MRS. McPHERSON'S secretary who advised him that no such letter had been received; that if one had been received, it would have been transmitted to the proper authorities. In view of these facts, Inspector Chance advised that his department would not want to hold HART. HART'S address and description was given to Chance. HART stated that he had lived around Los Angeles for about nine years.

JAMES E. HART was fingerprinted by Special Agent W. P. Morin and these prints are being forwarded to the Bureau. In view of the fact that HART was suffering from arthritis, it was difficult to obtain a good set of prints. The following is a description of JAMES E. HART as observed by Agent Morin:

NAME	JAMES E. HART, alias Charles King
Born	Alexandria, Indiana, October 6, 1904.
Height	5' 6"
Weight	120 lbs.

Build	Slight
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Black - streaked with gray
Residence	347 South Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, California
Occupation	Sells pencils
Relatives	None
Complexion	Fair
Nationality	American
Glasses	None
Moustache	None
Scars & Marks	Left arm - tattoos - Indian head near wrist Bathing girl Girl's head September moon Girl's legs Right arm - tattoos - Buffalo Bill bathing beauty Girl's legs Heart Nude woman Rose Right leg - amputated 8" below knee.

It is here noted that no such letter as set out above  
was ever received by MRS. MC PHERSON.

The following investigation was conducted by the reporting

Upon interview with HART on February 8, 1938, he furnished  
signed statement concerning his having written the extortion letter  
January 7, 1938, which is set out as follows:

\*2-8-38  
Los Angeles, Cal.

"I, James E. Hart, freely and voluntarily make the  
following statement to A. H. Miller, Special Agent Federal Bureau of  
Investigation U. S. Dept. of Justice without any threats or promises  
being made to me. I am 33 years of age, single & for the past year  
have lived at 347 South Los Angeles St. L. A. The only gainful occupa-  
tion I have is peddling pencils on the streets as I lost my right leg  
in 1922. I have been in California steadily since 1930. The only  
criminal record I have is being arrested for drunkenness.

On Feb. 1st 1938 I wrote & mailed a letter to Aimee Temple McPherson demanding \$100,000 & threatening to publish a nude picture of Aimee McPherson if she did not comply. I did not have any such photograph. I wrote this letter at my hotel room & mailed the same at a mail box at the Main St. on February 2nd. I decided to give myself up to the Government for doing this & called at the office of the U. S. I. on Saturday Feb. 5 - 1938 where I talked to Special Agent W. P. Morin & was released, & being told it was not a violation over which the Federal Bureau of Investigation had jurisdiction.

On February 7th I wrote another letter to Aimee Temple McPherson, demanding \$10,000.00 & threatening death if she did not comply with the request contained in it. I have shown this letter by Special Agent Miller & state that it is the very same letter & wrote and mailed to Aimee McPherson on Monday February 7th 1938. I am troubled with arthritis & rheumatism & have not been able to secure the proper treatment & decided to shoot for something big, not caring about the consequences. It was my intention at the time I wrote & mailed this second letter to carry on out the threats.

On thinking the matter over, however on Tuesday February 8, 1938 I decided I could not get away with it so decided to turn myself in to the authorities. I called at the office of the Los Angeles Examiner about 2:30 or 3 P.M. on Feb. 8 - 1938 & told Mr. Lewis there what I had done & stated I wanted to give myself up to the proper authorities. I am willing to plead guilty to this offense & get it over with.

The paper on which I wrote these letters is regular note book paper & I used a small plain white envelope. The name Chas King I used was a fictitious name I made up. I have other similar stationery & envelopes in my room No 7 - at the Edison Annex Hotel.

I have read this statement consisting of 2 pages written in long hand and the same is true & correct to my best knowledge & belief.

/s/ JAMES. E. HART.

Witnesses:

F. A. STONE, Special Agent

W. P. MORIN, Special Agent

A. J. MILLER, Special Agent Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Dept of Justice 603 Pacific Commerce Bldg.

Feb. 8, 1938

Special Agent E. J. Deehan, on February 8, 1938, called on the Arvelus Temple and there interviewed DR. JAMES H. KNIGHT, General Manager and Treasurer of the Church of the Four Square Gospel, who furnished Agent Deehan with the original extortion letter, which is set out as follows:

Feb 7 1938

Warning take notice  
unless you pay me \$10,000 dollars in cash you will  
be overtaken by quick death in your home. do not notify the  
police or federal authorities I am giving you until Friday to  
think it over. if you decide, Just do this; Make out money -  
payable to Charles - King general Delivery Los Angeles  
California. also address the mail to Charles King general Delivery  
Los Angeles California

signed - ? ? ?

? ? ? ?

This letter was addressed in a plain white envelope  
to "Miss Alice McPherson Angeles Temple 1100 Glendale Bld. Los  
Angeles Calif." and was sent Special Delivery with five 2¢ stamps  
on it, leaving 2¢ postage due which was paid at the Temple upon  
receipt of the letter on February 8. The postmark on the letter  
is Los Angeles, California, February 7, 7 P.M. and the letter was  
written on ruled notebook paper with perforations on the left side.  
This letter was photostated in the Los Angeles Bureau Office and  
copies are being retained in the Los Angeles files.

At the time of the arrest of subject at the Los Angeles  
Bureau, Agent was handed by Mr. LEWIS, an exact copy of this  
letter together with an envelope which is an exact copy of the  
envelope in which the original letter was mailed. MR. LEWIS stated  
that MR. HART had given him this letter at the time he came to the  
office, advising him that this was an exact copy of the letter he  
had sent to MR. MC PHERSON, and that he had made it at the same  
time the original note had been written.

Samples of handwriting of the subject were taken, and  
are being forwarded to the Technical Laboratory for comparison.

On February 9, 1938, Agent, with the authority of  
Assistant United States Attorney W. F. PALMER, filed a complaint  
against subject HART, charging him with violation of Title 18,  
Section 338a, U.S.C.A., Extortion. Bond was set at \$10,000.00.

was removed to the Los Angeles County Jail on the evening of February 8, 1938.

On February 9, 1938, Agent called at the residence of ~~NAME~~ which is the Edison Annex Hotel, 347 South Los Angeles. ~~NAME~~ was admitted to the room of subject by the proprietor. In a drawer of a small table in room 7, Agent secured an envelope similar to the envelope used in the original extortion letter, and from a small notebook, secured three samples of the notebook paper which seems to be identical with that used in the original extortion letter. It is noted that the first of these sample sheets clearly bears the imprint of the original extortion letter, it being possible to read the extortion letter by holding the sample sheet at a certain angle to the light. This sample sheet has been initialed by Special Agent Miller, and is being forwarded to the Technical Laboratory for comparison.

Subject was fingerprinted and his prints have been forwarded to the Bureau.

On February 9, 1938, Agent interviewed DR. GILES N. ~~NAME~~ at the Angelus Temple, who stated that the extortion letter had not been handled by any of the employees at the Angelus Temple, but that a metal letter opener was used, consequently, no employees of the Temple were fingerprinted. DR. KNIGHT furnished the following description of the victim, ADONIS SEMPLE MC PHERSON.

Age	LA
Height	5' 5"
Weight	132 lbs.
Build	Medium
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Marital Status	Single
Address	1100 Glendale Boulevard
Telephone	Exposition 1111
Complexion	Good, fair
Teeth	Good
Occupation	Evangelist
Scars and marks	Carbuncle scars on both arms.

DEVELOPED LEAD: THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE at Los Angeles will follow and report prosecutive action.

P E N D I N G

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

903 Pacific Commerce Building

437 South Hill Street

Los Angeles, California

February 18, 1938

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: JAMES E. HART, alias  
Charles King; ALICE  
SEMPLE McPHERSON - Victim  
EXTORTION  
L. A. File No. 9-242

Dear Sir:

There is being forwarded to the Bureau under separate cover, an original extortion letter addressed to "MISS ALICE McPHERSON, Angeles Temple, 1100 Glendale Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif." This letter is written on a sheet of lined notebook paper, and was dated February 7, 1938, and commences as follows:

"Dear Alice (warning take notice  
Dear madam unless you pay me  
\$10,000 dollars in cash you will  
be overtaken by quick death in  
your home. Et cetera."

together with the original envelope postmarked Los Angeles, Calif., Feb. 7, 7 P M, and bearing five two cent stamps and two one cent postage stamps.

RECORDED & INDEXED

9-3458-3

This letter was written by subject JAMES E. HART, alias CHARLES KING on February 7, and mailed to the Victim, ALICE SEMPLE McPHERSON, on that date.

FEB 23 1938

Fingerprints of the subject have been forwarded to the Identification Unit.

IDENTIFICATION

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FILE

Attached hereto is a small white envelope identical with that used in the extortion letter and with the identical address written thereon. In this envelope there is also included, in the handwriting of the subject, an exact copy of the original envelope, which was taken from the subject at the time of his arrest. There is also attached a specimen of the handwriting of the subject, JAMES E. HART, dictated to him by Special Agent in Charge, Los Angeles, California.

A. 1024 W. 1024 W. 1024 W.

Director

-2-

February 18, 1938

Agent A. E. Miller under date of February 8, 1938, the specimen being the extortion letter above-mentioned. There is also attached a plain white envelope, within which there is enclosed three sample sheets of the notebook paper similar to that used in the extortion letter, the first of these specimens having thereon indentations visible to the naked eye, showing that the original extortion letter was written on a sheet of this stationery immediately over this particular specimen of the notebook paper. This paper was taken from the room of subject under date of February 9, 1938, by Special Agent Miller.

Photostatic copies of the original extortion letter have been made in the Los Angeles Bureau Office.

The Technical Laboratory is requested to process the original extortion letter for latent fingerprints and to compare the handwriting of the original extortion letter with the sample of the handwriting taken from the person of the subject at the time of his arrest and also the specimen taken from him at the Los Angeles Bureau Office at the dictation of a Bureau Agent.

Very truly yours,

*J. H. Hanson*

J. H. HANSON  
Special Agent in Charge

ABM:HK  
Enclosures

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

RECEIVED

March 18, 1938.

Special Agent in Charge,  
Los Angeles, California.

Re: James E. Hart, alias Charles Kling;  
Aimee Semple McPherson, Victim;  
Extortion.

With reference to Laboratory Report #21554, in connection with the  
above titled case, there are transmitted herewith photographic copies of the  
following specimens which your office submitted for examination:

9-3488-3 Q1 and Q2.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Enclosure



March 11, 1938.

9-3458-8  
Special Agent in Charge,  
Los Angeles, California.

Re: James E. Hart, alias Charles King;  
Aimee Semple McPherson, Victim;  
Extortion.

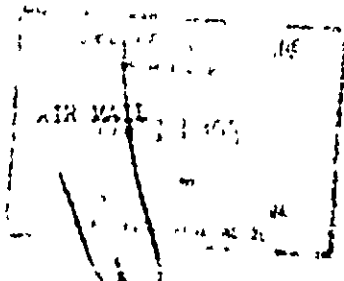
Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above entitled matter and received in the Bureau February 23, 1938.

Very truly yours,

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Enclosure:



L-16

WGB:DMK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

\$1554

Laboratory Report

March 11, 1938.

Case: James E. Hart, alias Charles King;  
Alonso Sample McPherson, Victim;  
Extortion.

Number: 9-3458-3

Specimens: (See attached sheet)

Examination requested by: Los Angeles

Date received: February 25, 1938

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Result of examination.

Examination by Blackburn

Specimen Q1 is a plain white envelope addressed in pencil. The envelope measures approximately  $3\frac{1}{2}$  by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches and contains no watermark. This envelope is similar to envelopes submitted and designated as K1 and K2.

Specimen Q2 is handwritten in pencil on a sheet of notebook paper from a "spiral" notebook, having two rounded corners on the right-hand edge and forty-three  $1/16$  inch holes at the left edge for binding. The paper is ruled with nineteen blue-green lines starting approximately 1.1 inches from the top of the page and spaced an average distance of .375 inches apart. The paper contains no watermark, measures approximately 7 by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches and has a substance number of approximately 11. This paper is identical to the paper submitted and designated as K1 and K2. On specimen Q2 are found indentations of the writing of specimen K2. On specimen K2 are found indentations of the writing of both Q2 and K1.

The material submitted was treated for the development of latent fingerprints but none of value was found.

The handwriting contained on this extortion letter and envelope will be compared with that contained in the anonymous letter file in the Laboratory and if any identification is made you will be further advised. A photographic copy of this handwriting will be placed in the anonymous letter file.

A comparison of the known handwriting of James E. Hart with the handwriting contained on Q1, Q2 and K2 has resulted in the conclusion that these were written by James E. Hart.

L-7

9-3458-4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAR 14 1938

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Page Two

Laboratory Report

#21554

Photographic copies of the evidence submitted will be forwarded to your office within the next several days.

THE ORIGINAL EVIDENCE IS BEING RETAINED IN THE LABORATORY FOR USE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS WHICH MAY BE DESIRED. SHOULD YOUR OFFICE DESIRE THIS ORIGINAL EVIDENCE FOR USE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS WHICH MAY DEVELOP THE BUREAU SHOULD BE NOTIFIED IN AMPLE TIME TO PERMIT TRANSMITTAL.

1-Dureau  
2-Los Angeles  
3-Laboratory

Laboratory Report

71554

9-3453-3

- Q1 One envelope postmarked "Los Angeles, California, February 7, 1938, 7 P. M.", stamped "Special Delivery" with five two-cent and two one-cent stamps affixed. Stamped "Postage due 2 cents."
- Q2 One sheet apparently mailed in Q1 dated February 7, 1938, which reads "warning take notice Dear aima"
- Q3 One envelope in handwriting of James E. Hart, addressed to "Miss Aimee McPherson, Angeles Temple, 1000 Glendale Bld, Los Angeles, Cal."
- Q4 One sheet in handwriting of James E. Hart, dated February 7, 1938, which reads "warning take notice Dear aima"
- Q5 One sheet, yellow, dated February 7, 1938 in the handwriting of James E. Hart, which reads "Dear aima warning take notice"
- Q6 One blank envelope, same kind and size as Q1.
- Q7 Three sheets of note paper, punched margin, containing indential writing apparently of Q1.

## Extortion Note Suspect Indicted

James E. Hart, a cripple, who wrote a letter to Aimee Semple McPherson, demanding \$10,000 under threat of death, yesterday was indicted by a Federal grand jury on a charge of extortion. After writing the letter Hart voluntarily surrendered to the police and was turned over to Federal Bureau of Investigation agents. He said he had no intention of harming the evangelist, but thought he might bluff her into paying the money. Then she at science began talking to him, he said, and he surrendered. Hart's bail was fixed at \$10,000 and arraignment set for today.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*W. J. [Signature]*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# 21584  
8353

(Recorded 2-24-38 3:00 P.M.)

Laboratory Report

Case: James E. Hart, alias Charles King; Albee  
Samuel McPherson - Victim. KIDNAPING.  
L. A. File No. 6-242.

Number: 6-242-3

*files*

Specimens:

- 6-242-3 Q 1 One envelope postmarked at Los Angeles, Calif. Feb. 7, 1938,  
EX 7 PM, stamped "Special Delivery, with five two cent and two  
one cent stamps affixed. Stamped "Postage due 2 cents."  
Q 2 One sheet apparently enclosed in Q 1 dated Feb. 7, 1938, which  
reads "Warning take notice Dear Albee".

- 6-242-3 K 1 One envelope in handwriting of James E. Hart, addressed to  
Examination requested by: Los Angeles,

Date received. Mailed 2/22/38. Recorded 2/24/38. 11:00 a.m. MFF

(chp Feb. 23, 1938.)

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint.

Result of examination:

Examination by: Sullivan

Miss Albee McPherson, Angeles Temple, 1100 Glendale Rd., Los  
Angeles, Cal.

- K 2 One sheet in handwriting of James E. Hart, dated Feb 8, 1938,  
which reads "Warning take notice Dear Albee".  
K 3 One sheet, yellow, dated Feb 7, 1938 which is in the  
handwriting of James E. Hart, which reads "Dear Albee warning  
take notice."  
K 4 One blank envelope, same kind and size as Q 1.  
K 5 Three sheets of note paper, punched margin, containing indented  
writing apparently of Q 2.

*To be sent for card 2-24  
To be sent for card 2-24  
no latents developed D*

*one in file  
file*

Mr. J. E. Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

FBI, LOS ANGELES

(Name and address of Contributor)

April 27, 1938.

(Date)

Dear Sir:

The following is additional record in a case on which fingerprints have been  
mailed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

FBI Number 1458211

Name, Aliases and Number JAMES E. HART, aliases Charles King, Elmer Hart,

L. A. Bureau Office (#9-242)

Fingerprint Classification

(To be given if FBI number not known)

Date of Arrest, or Received 2-8-38

Charge Extortion.

Date of Disposition 2-8-38

Disposition to Los Angeles S. O.

MAY 5 1938

9-3458-5

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAY 2 1938 P. M.

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

J. M. HANSON, Special Agent in Charge

(For instructions see reverse side)

(Official Title)

Mr. J. E. Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

FBI, LOS ANGELES

(Name and address of Contributor)

April 27, 1938.

(Date)

Dear Sir:

The following is additional record in a case on which fingerprints have been  
mailed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

FBI Number 1458211

Name, Aliases and Number JAMES E. HART, aliases Charles King, Elmer Hart,

Los Angeles S. O. #269178

Fingerprint Classification \_\_\_\_\_  
(to be given if FBI number not known)

Date of Arrest, or Received 2-8-38

Charge Extortion

Date of Disposition 2-9-38

Disposition To USF, Los Angeles

9-3458-5

Very truly yours,

J. H. HANSON, SAC

(Official Title)

(For instructions see reverse side)

MAY 5 1938



Mr. J. E. Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

FBI, LOS ANGELES

(Name and address of Contributor)

April 27, 1938.

(Date)

Dear Sir:

The following is additional record in a case on which fingerprints have been  
mailed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

FBI Number 1458211

Name, Aliases and Number JAMES E. HART, aliases Charles King, Elmer Hart,

USM, Los Angeles, #6306.

Fingerprint Classification  
(To be given if FBI number not known)

Date of Arrest, or Received 2-9-38

Charge Attempt. extortion (mail)

Date of Disposition 3-28-38

Disposition 6 mos. L. A. County Jail

MAY 5 1938

9 3458-5

Very truly yours,

J. E. HANSON, SAC  
(Official Title)

(For instructions see reverse side)

Mr.  
F.B.I.  
Unit  
Wash

Dear

mail

FBI N

Name,

La

Finger  
(To be

Date o

Charge

Date o

Dispos

(For 1

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

L. A. FILE NO 9-3458

REPORT MADE AT <b>Los Angeles</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4-27-38</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/2, 7, 14, 28/38</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>A. R. Miller</b>
TITLE <b>JAMES E. HART, aliases Charles King, Elmer Hart; ADMEK SEMPLE McPHERSON - Victim.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>Extortion.</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject indicted by Federal Grand Jury 3-2-38 at Los Angeles for violation of Title 18, Sec. 338a, USCA, Extortion. On 3-7-38 subject pleaded guilty, and Federal Judge IANKNICH sentenced him to six months in County Jail 3-28-38. Technical Laboratory reports subject wrote extortion letter. Criminal record set out. Disposition sheet submitted.

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent A. R. Miller, Los Angeles, California, dated 2-18-38.

**DETAILS:**

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

The title of this case is being changed to include the additional alias **ELMER HART** for subject, as reported in his criminal record.

Evidence was presented to the Federal Grand Jury at Los Angeles, California, under date of March 2, 1938, which resulted in an indictment in one count being brought against subject, charging him with violation of Title 18, Section 338a, USCA (Extortion).

APPROVED AND FORWARDED  SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES  <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">9-3458-5</div> <div style="text-align: center;">MAY 5 1938</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 Bureau 1 U. S. Attorney, Los Angeles 2 Los Angeles	<div style="text-align: center;">MAY 5 - 1938</div> <div style="text-align: center;">-2 P.M.</div>

On March 7, 1938, subject was arraigned before Federal Judge LEON R. YANKNICH, Los Angeles, and pleaded guilty to the indictment. Sentence was deferred until March 14, on which date it was again continued for examination of the subject by a psychiatrist.

On March 28, 1938, Federal Judge YANKNICH sentenced subject to serve six months in the Los Angeles County Jail.

A disposition sheet is being submitted to the Bureau.

The Identification Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation reports the following criminal record for subject under FBI-1458211:-

As Elmer Hart, #8042, arr. PD, San Diego, Calif., 8-15-29; charge, Fug. O. T. (auto) for L. A. Calif.; 6 mos. Co. Jail.

As James E. Hart, #269178, arr. SO, Los Angeles, Calif., 2-8-38; charge, extortion; no disposition shown.

As James E. Hart, #6306, arr. USM, Los Angeles, Calif., 2-9-38; charge, attempt. extortion (mail); no disposition shown.

As James E. Hart, #L.A. 9-242, arr. Bu. Field Div., Los Angeles, Calif., 2-8-38; charge, extortion; no disposition shown.

Disposition sheets are being submitted herewith on all charges reflected above as having "no disposition shown."

Under date of March 11, 1938, the Technical Laboratory reported that the paper found in the room of subject is identical with the paper used by an extortionist in writing the instant extortion letter; that no latent finger prints were found on the extortion letter, and that the handwriting appearing on the extortion letter is identical with the samples of the handwriting submitted to the Bureau for comparison, which samples were taken from subject HART.

ENCLOSURES:

TO BUREAU: Three disposition sheets.

CLOSED.

9 3458

2712

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WMA:EG

Laboratory Report

July 17, 1939

Case: Unknown Subject; Robert A. Clark, U. S.  
Material - Envelope; Stationery

Number: 7-4653-2

- Specimens:
1. Envelope postmarked "Los Angeles, California, June 23, 1939, 7 P.M."
  2. First page of accompanying handwritten letter beginning "Pay off if you want"
  3. Second page of letter beginning "Pay off if you want"

Examination requested by: Los Angeles

Date received: 6/28/39

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Result of examination:

Examination by: Dingle

This confirms and supplements the Bureau's teletype of July 5, 1939.

The specimen listed above as Q1 is a white bond finish envelope which measures 3.64x5.18" and weighs 3.354 grams. The paper has a thickness of .0044" and has no watermark. It bears an address written in script with a soft pencil.

The specimen listed above as Q2 is a sheet of white bond finish paper which measures 4.99x7.95" and is ruled with blue lines 3.28" apart. The first line on either side is 1.05" from the top. There is evidence that it has been torn from a pad. It weighs 1.618 grams and has a thickness of .0031". The message is written in script using a soft pencil.

The specimen listed above as Q3 is a sheet of white bond finish paper which measures 4.99x7.94" and is ruled with blue lines 3.28" apart. The first line on either side is spaced 1.06" from the top. There is evidence that it has been torn from a pad. It weighs 1.597 grams and has a thickness of .0031". The message is written in script with a soft pencil.

Specimens Q1, Q2 and Q3 were chemically treated for the development of latent fingerprints and a separate report upon this

9-4153-6

Page 2  
Laboratory Report #29102

phase of the examination is being submitted.

The handwriting appearing on specimens Q1, Q2 and Q3 was compared with the known handwriting of James E. Hart whose known handwriting is listed as K1 through K3 in the case entitled, James E. Hart, aliases Charles King, Elmer Hart; Aileen Beulah McPherson - Victim, Extortion, Bureau file #7-1456 and the conclusion was reached that this individual wrote specimens Q1 through Q3. This comparison was made as a result of the search of the anonymous letter file.

Photographic copies of specimens Q1 through Q3 are enclosed herewith.

The original evidence is being retained in the files of the Laboratory.

- 2 - Bureau (1 - 9-3(56))
- 3 - Los Angeles
- 2 - Laboratory (1 - 9-3(56))

MAIL ROOM  
9/16/53

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

July 9, 1939

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

SAC LOS ANGELES

Transmit the following message to:

2  
REPLY JUNE TWENTYSEVEN UNDER ROBERT E. CLARK VIKKI. LETTER AND  
ENVELOPE CONCLUDED WRITTEN BY JAMES E. RANT WHOSE KNOWN HANDWRITING  
SUBMITTED IN CASE JAMES E. RANT, ALICE EMILY McPHERSON, VIKKI.  
LATENT FINGERPRINTS CLARK LETTER IDENT JAMES E. RANT NUMBER FBI  
ONE FOUR FIVE EIGHT TWO ONE ONE.

HOOPER

RECORDED

INDEXED

9-3458-6

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

POSTAL

SENT VIA

9/3p

Per JK

7-45

July 17, 1939

9-4553-2

**AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY**

Mr. R. B. Hood  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
810 South Spring Building  
Room 603  
Los Angeles, California

Re: Unknown Subject; Robert E. Clark,  
U. S. Marshal - Victim; Extortion.

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report, covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above entitled matter and received in the Bureau June 28, 1939.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure:

9-3458-7  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 10 1949  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

L.A. File #43-12.

REPORT MADE AT Los Angeles, Calif.	DATE WHEN MADE 10-8-27	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-6-27 10-4-27	REPORT MADE BY Albert Daly	EC
TITLE ALICE BEMPLE LUTHERSON			CHARACTER OF CASE ILLEGAL WEARING OF NAVAL UNIFORM	

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Letter received from United States Attorney J. J. McLaughlin, Los Angeles, calling attention to information received by him to the effect that certain members of subject's religious congregation were alleged to be using a uniform very closely resembling the prescriptive uniform worn by the officers and men of the United States Navy. Investigation conducted to determine whether or not said allegations might be verified. Result of investigation submitted to United States Attorney McLaughlin, who advised that no prosecution he had and that no further action to take in this matter.

NO PENDING.

CLOSED

## DETAILS:

Revelation of Case

Under date of September 1, 1927, a letter was received from United States Attorney J. J. McLaughlin, Los Angeles, advising that he had received a letter from Rear Admiral J. S. Johnson, U.S.N., Commandant of the eleventh Naval District, San Diego, California, calling attention to a photograph which shows subject and certain members of her religious congregation attired in uniforms which very closely resembled that of the uniform worn by the officers and men of the United States Navy.

Mrs. Alice Temple Lutherston, the subject of this investigation, is the leader of a religious organization known as the International Institute of Four-square Evangelism with headquarters at the Angelus Temple, 1100 Glendale Boulevard, Los Angeles. Recent press dispatches contained information to the effect that subject was reorganizing her congregation somewhat along naval lines; that she was to be known as the Admiral, and that her several subordinates were to be regarded as Lieutenants, First Lieutenants, etc.; that the lighthouse was to be the insignia of the organization.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED  WASH. NUTON SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO Bureau - 2 U.S. Attorney - 1 File - 2	43-300-1 BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OCT 11 1927 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO FILE	RECORDED AND INDEXED OCT 13 1927 CHECKED OFF INDEXED NO. 5
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Ames Doly (Agt.)  
Re: AMES TEMPLE KAPUZ30K

Los Angeles  
10-6-27

Page 2.

Agent conferred with Agent in Charge Frank J. Blane and United States Attorney S. W. McComb prior to beginning this investigation and was instructed to proceed to Angelus Temple and observe whether or not subject or any of her followers were in fact using uniforms noticeably similar to those of the United States Navy.

Agent attended religious services at said temple on the evenings of September 7th, 9th, 12th and 14th, but no evidence was obtained indicating that subject or any of her members were using uniforms bearing the insignia or emblems of the Navy or uniforms closely resembling the uniforms prescribed for officers or men of the United States Navy.

Agent again conferred with United States Attorney McComb, and it was suggested by him to interview subject or her secretary and ascertain what plans they had in mind relative to their future prescribed uniform.

Agent subsequently interviewed Miss Waldron, secretary to subject, at the Angelus Temple, and was informed by her that she and subject were at present reorganizing their forces; that they had planned to do so along naval lines; that they would use the lighthouse as the insignia of the organization; that they intended to regard subject as being the Admiral of her "crew", and that her subordinates were to bear other commonly known terms such as Commander, Ensigns, gobs, etc. She stated that to date no one in the organization had purchased a uniform because of the fact that it had not been definitely decided just what uniforms were to be used.

She explained further that when the press learned about their proposed plans of reorganization, they called at the Angelus Temple and requested a photograph of subject and some of her followers in naval uniforms similar to those they had in mind using. Miss Waldron states that arrangements were then made to rent a few uniforms which were later put on by subject and some of her followers, and said parties posed for a photograph for the local press. She states, however, that these uniforms were immediately returned and have not been used since that date. Miss Waldron was then requested to furnish a list of the type of uniforms to be used by subject and her followers.

Under date of October 5th the following letter was received from Harriet A. Jordan, Dean of the International Institute of Four-square Evangelists:

"We are herewith enclosing a description of the uniforms planned for the members of the Four-square Gospel Lighthouses. As you will see, the whole plan of the uniforms and insignias have no real bearing upon those of the Navy, but are made up in entirety by our own workers and ministers.

"The uniforms of the Sunday School children of the Four-square Gospel Lighthouses, known as the Jack Tars and Tarlettes, will be the ordinary civilian middie worn by school children.

Harriet Daly (Agt.)  
Re: ARMED TEMPLE MEMBERS

Los Angeles  
10-6-27

Page 3.

"The boys, up to the age of twelve years, will wear the plain sailor suit. The sailor suits and middie can be purchased from any department store but the Foursquare Gospel Lighthouse children will have the lighthouse insignia made on the sleeve to identify them with this church.

"The girls, from twelve years old and adults, will wear the regular Angelina Temple uniform with the square collar and the insignia of the life-belt with the figure four in the corner.

"The young men and adults will wear a blue serge, double breasted suit which is the stock suit of wholesale clothing stores. On these blue suits will be plain buttons and on the sleeve will be the Foursquare Lighthouse insignia embroidered which is composed of a lighthouse built upon a rock and a cross embroidered in the Bible which rests upon the rock.

"To show in which department the worker is serving, such as for the Music Department, a harp; for the Sunday school teachers, an open Bible with the figure four; and for the Bible students an open Bible with the figure four with bars above to indicate the seniority.

"The crusaders will have an emblem upon their sleeve of the shield and the word Bible. The general membership of the church will have the lighthouse emblem on the sleeve.

"All men under the organization will wear what is commonly known as a yachting cap with the Foursquare Lighthouse insignia embroidered on the front.

"The girls and women of the Bible School will wear a blue sailor hat with black band with the letters L.I.F.E. embroidered, standing for Lighthouse of International Foursquare Evangelism and from the center of the cap will fall a black silk tassel hanging almost to the shoulder on the left side."

"We appreciate very much your interest and would be glad at any time to have your council and advise if there is anything in this description that would infringe upon the rights and dignity of the Navy.

Very sincerely yours,

Harriet A. Jordan,  
Dear"

Re: Daily (Ag.)  
Re: ALICE, SAMUEL, MATHENSON

Los Angeles  
10-8-37

Page 4

Agent referred said letter to United States Attorney McHale, who advised that, in his opinion, no further action should be taken in the matter; that he was of the opinion that there was not sufficient evidence to warrant any further investigation, and that he could not see anything in the proposed plan of uniforms which would meet with objection from his office.

This matter is therefore considered at office of origin closed upon reference to the United States Attorney.

CLOSED

HN:KC'B

✓

July 20, 1926.

W

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. INHRING.

So far as can be ascertained the disappearance of Mrs. McPherson, referred to in the attached telegram, possesses no angles involving violations or alleged violations of Federal Statutes, or at least such as come within the jurisdiction of this Bureau.

I assume that you want to reply to the telegram in person.

Very truly yours,

Enc. 256272

Acting Director.

RECEIVED

62-12691-1

COPY

Los Angeles, Calif.

June 25,

The Department of Justice,  
Washington

THE UNDERSIGNED VOICING THE SENTIMENT OF MANY THINKING  
PEOPLE BELIEVES THAT THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF MCPHERSON  
DISAPPEARANCE AND DOUBTFUL KIDNAPING STORY SHOULD BE MADE  
ONE LIFE WAS LOST WHILE SEARCHING FOR BODY WHICH SHE IS  
RESPONSIBLE FOR IF SHE DISAPPEARED VOLUNTARILY WHICH  
APPEARS QUITE EVIDENT AT THIS TIME

JOHN J. KERSHNER    AUTHOR PUBLISHER

*20 Mr. Sullivan  
7-20-26  
H.H.*

Department of Justice

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1-1008

Oklahoma City, Okla.

July 20, 1926.

Director

Think have located Kenneth G. Ormiston, witness  
in Aimee McPherson case Los Angeles. Shall  
I investigate?

One white.

Rec'd. 1250

Decoded J

To Director 1

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUL 21 1926

62-12691-2

*Ans  
7/20/26  
JH*

62-12691-2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JUL 21 1936

EN:JL

July 20, 1936.

T. B. White,  
Department of Justice,  
Federal Building,  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

OO:EN

NO INVESTIGATION SHOULD BE MADE

MCPHERSON CASE OR ANY OTHER

UNLESS FEDERAL VIOLATIONS UNDER THIS

BUREAU'S JURISDICTION IS INVOLVED

NATHAN ACTING

62-12691

# WILLIS W. BLOSSOM

MADISON—WISCONSIN—

1019-1021 WILLIAMSON STREET  
LEATHER GOODS, IVORY, CUTLERY, CALENDARS  
AND AUTOMOBILE ACCESSORIES

Nov. 2, 1926.

Mr. C. Coolidge, President,  
Washington, D.C.

62 12691

Dear President Coolidge:-

I know you are a very busy man but there is a matter which I believe has a community of interest that lays heavy on my heart and for weeks I have felt I should write you about the matter. I have never met this party but she is, and from early life has been, a friend and acquaintance of some of my friends. I refer to Mrs. Amie Semple McPherson of Los Angeles, California. It certainly seems to me that her case is a frame up by the enemies of the cause of Christ and that the procedure is that of tyranny and a pointed challenge pitted against the tenets of the christian religion and the fundamental principles of our government. Is it seeking too much if I ask you to take immediate steps to see that a fair and impartial hearing is given her, and that the government of the United States takes immediate steps to unearth this plot and to apprehend all who are connected with the kidnapping, abducting into Mexico and further persecuting of this woman who has been a marvel of the century as a christian evangelist turning thousands from the paths of sin to those of virtue, fearlessly holding up the blood stained banner of the Lord Jesus Christ. Again I ask you that this woman who is a mother of a family, a citizen of the United States, and one who has served time as a foreign missionary, where her young husband laid down his life, and one who has accomplished wonders as an evangelist from Canada to Florida and from coast to coast, one who is now the pastor of a large church and the head of a Bible school be accorded a fair hearing in the courts; that her abduction and persecution be unearthed and that if it is necessary the American army be put in a position to defend the dignity of the stars and striped and the sacred laws of God which have ever consecrated the constitution and flag of our nation.

With prayer for your guidance and help, I am

Most sincerely yours,

W. W. Blossom  
Nov 23 1926

Reply  
11/18/26

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-12691-3	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
NOV 6 11 26 P.M.	
Div. Two	FILE

HA



RE: ABE

62-12691-3

NOV 23 1926

November 20, 1926.

Mr. W. W. Blossom,  
1019-21 Williamson Street,  
Madison, Wisconsin.

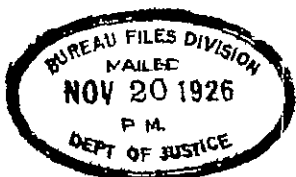
Dear Sir:

Your communication of the 2nd instant, directed to the President, concerning the case in California of MRS. AIME SIMPLE McPHERSON, has been referred to this Bureau for acknowledgment.

There is nothing to indicate, at the present time, that the Bureau of Investigation would have any jurisdiction over any of the facts in this case.

Very truly yours,

Director.



SEPTEMBER 1, '44

J. EDGER HOOVER  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR SIR:

I SHOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU  
TO CAREFULLY INVESTIGATE THE  
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LIFE AND  
THE ACTIVITIES OF MRS. RIMEE  
SEMPLE Mc PHERSON OF LOS  
ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. I BELIEVE  
HER TO BE GUILTY OF THE  
PRACTICE OF HYPNOTISM. HER  
MOTIVE IS TO OBTAIN MONEY.  
I WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE  
DETECTIVE YOU CHOOSE BE ABLE  
TO FEARLESSLY RESIST THIS  
TERRIBLE POWER. FOR BEST  
RESULTS, HE SHOULD PRETEND  
TO BE A MAN OF WEALTH AND  
TO BE SEEKING RELIEF FROM  
SOME PHYSICAL AFFLICTMENT. HE  
SHOULD INSIST UPON SEEING  
ONLY MRS. MCPHERSON FOR  
THIS AID. HER ORDAINED  
MINISTERS, THROUGHOUT THE  
UNITED STATES, ARE ALL  
GUILTY OF THIS CRIME.

WHEN CAPTURED, THE  
CRIMINAL COULD BE KEPT NEAR  
BY BEYOND REACH OF A RADIO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-15-94 BY 60322

RECORDED

1-2-12691-4

EX-105

30 SEP 1944

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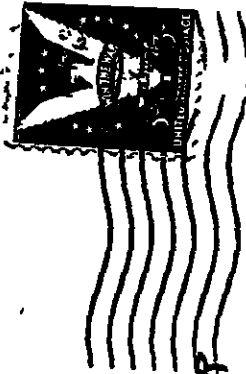
TO PREVENT CONCENTRATION  
THE WRITER AND A  
VERY CLOSE FRIEND HAVE  
SUFFERED BECAUSE OF THE  
BRUTAL INFLUENCE OF THIS  
POWER POSSESSED BY ONE  
OF MRS. MCPHERSON'S PUPILS.  
AS A RESULT, THIS FRIEND  
IS NOW ILL IN A HOSPITAL  
~~AND NOT EXPECTED TO~~

RECOVER.

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
AT TULSA, OKLA., CAPTURED  
AND TRIED A FEMININE  
HYPNOTIST DURING THE  
SPRING.

I WILL THANK YOU IN  
ADVANCE FOR THOSE WHO  
NEED AND WILL, THROUGH  
YOUR EFFORTS, BE PROTECT-  
~~ED.~~

REC'D  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
SEP 15 5 54 PM '40  
RECEIVED-ROSEN DIV 6  
FBI  
DEPT OF JUSTICE



J. EDGER  
OFFICE OF  
FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.